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July 27.

Hon. E. J. Brooks, Acting Commissioner,
Office of Indian Affairs.
Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 22nd was duly received, informing me that the vouchers enclosed in my letter of the 13th inst. were not found as mentioned. I am surprised at the fact, but as I received a duplicate set I will send them with this. I will add also other vouchers received from the Sisseton Agency. Please inform me if all are duly received.

Very sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark.
Sec.

July 27.

Hon. E. J. Brooks, Acting Commissioner,
Office of Indian Affairs.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 22nd was duly received, informing me that the vouchers enclosed in my letter of the 13th inst. were not found as mentioned. I am surprised at the fact, but as I reserved a duplicate set I will send them with this. I will add also other vouchers received from the Sisseton Agency. Please inform me if all are duly received.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark.

July 28.

Hon. A. C. Barstow,
Providence, R. I.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of July 23d, with enclosures from Mr. Kingsley, was duly received. I presented the main points to the Prudential Committee yesterday. Thanks for your kindness in writing. It seems that Gen. Fiske is the ruling man just now in the councils of the Board of Commissioners. As Mr. Schurz is disposed to have little or nothing to do with the religious bodies, it is quite probable this matter will adjust itself before very long in a giving up of the present s[illegible] altogether. We can abide the results.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Aug. 11. 0.

Rev. C. L. Hall
Ft. Berthold.

Dear Mr. Hall:

I communicated at once with the Indian Department in regard to the restrictions placed upon you in reference to building. Mr. Brooks, Acting Commissioner, has written me that we were quite right in our constructions of the case and that he has communicated with the agent at Ft. Berthold to aid you in various ways as in times past. I send you a copy of his letter.

Hoping that this matter will now be pleasantly adjusted,

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

P.S. Has Miss Pell [illegible] received [illegible] reply – to Miss [illegible]? Will send the [illegible] [illegible] – & no report from you for the [illegible]

Aug. 11. 0.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec'y,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Dear Mr. Riggs:

The restrictions put upon Mr. Hall at Ft. Berthold have been raised [illegible] not forthcoming [illegible] one set of vouchers for your agency that we are obliged to get up a bond of indemnity. There [illegible] of [illegible]

Thanks for your kindly references to Mr. Robbins. That matter will come right in due time I have no doubt.

Very truly yours,

N. G. Clark

P.S. Yours of June 11, July 28, 29, Aug. 3rd received. [illegible] [illegible] schools – not clear – will refer to our Com. – No reports from your missions. Can not make out [illegible]. Yours should be in already by July 1 – if possible, at least without the [illegible] [illegible]

Aug. 11. 0.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec'y,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Dear Mr. Riggs:

The restrictions put upon Mr. Hall at Ft. Berthold have been raised, and the former liberty and freedom are to be enjoyed there. Mr. Brooks, Acting Commissioner, has written me on the subject and has reported his writing to the agent at Ft. Berthold; so I trust a difficulties on that matter are relieved.

I get no reply from Mr. Schurz to my communication to him on the matter of religious freedom. The funds are not forthcoming from the Government in aid of the schools. I sent on one set of vouchers for your agency that were lost and we are obliged to get up a bond of indemnity. There is a good deal of red tape in getting through the Department, but perseverance will secure the result.

Thanks for your kindly references to Mr. Robbins. That matter will come right in due time I have no doubt.

Very truly yours,

N. G. Clark

P.S. Yours of June 11, July 28, 29, Aug. 3d received. as to the [illegible] school - not clear - will refer to our Com. - No reports from your missions. Can not make out names. Yours should be in always by July 1 — if possible, at least followed the blank enclosed

Aug 14 0

Hon. E. J. Brooks,
Acting Comm. Indian Affairs,
Dear Sir:

I send herewith duplicate vouchers for the account rendered of the Industrial Boarding and Day School at Sisseton Agency and the Bond of Indemnity to cover the lost vouchers for the School at Santee Agency. The date of the vouchers must be supplied in the body of the Bond, from the vouchers in your possession. —

Hoping that the business is now properly en règle,

Yours
N. G. Clark
Sec.

Aug. 13. 8

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs,
Ft. Sully, D. T.

Dear Mr. Riggs:

I was very much obliged to you for your favor of Mar. [illegible] and for the interesting facts you gave with your success in securing lands for your Indians. I note your tribute to [illegible] Please [illegible] my thanks for the kind assistance and co-operation with you in your efforts.

You say at some other time you will write of other matters and will request your ladies to write of their work. No such communications have been received, nor any reports from your station. I have no facts save such as I can pick up here and there from occasional letters to the Dakota newspapers from which to make up my annual report. Will you kindly send me at once some statements in regard to your station, and fill out the blanks sent you as far as you can? There is no time now to be lost.

I trust you are enjoying your work this season and have many pleasing tokens of your success.

With Christian regards to yourself and the ladies associated with you and for your little boy,

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Aug. 13.

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs,
Ft. Sully, D. T.

Dear Mr. Riggs:

I was very much obliged to you for your favor of Mar. 18 and for the interesting facts you give of your success in securing lands for your Indians. I note your tribute to Major Sch~~[illegible]~~man. Please convey to him our thanks for his kindly assistance and co-operation with you in your efforts.

You say at some other time you will write of other matters and will request your ladies to write of their work. No such communications have been received nor any report from your station. I have no facts save such as I can pick up here and there from occasional letters to the Dakota newspapers from which to make up my annual report. Will you kindly send me at once some statements in regard to your station, and fill out the blank form sent you as far as you can? There is no time now to be lost.

I trust you are enjoying your work this season and have many pleasing tokens of your success.

With Christian regards to yourself and the ladies associated with you — and for your little boy,

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Aug: 18: 8:

Rev. Alfred L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Dear Mr. Riggs:

Yours of July 29th in regard to utilizing Mr. Tibbals in some way was laid before the Committee yesterday. The Committee do not think it wise to mix up our work with his in any way. They are ready to grant what is really necessary for the work, but would avoid all complications with other enterprises and with other men than our own.

I have a telegram this morning from your brother Henry in regard to Mr. Robbins. He was planning to go to Santee Agency and so not leave here till the first of Sept. I have written to Mrs. Riggs and to Mr. Robbins at once to carry out your brother's wishes, and think it can be brought around without trouble.

Very truly yours,

N. G. Clark

Aug. 18. [illegible] 0.

Mrs. Henry M. Riggs.
Grafton Mass.
[illegible] Riggs
Ft. Berthold, D. T.

Dear [illegible] Riggs:

[illegible] am just received from your husband asking if Mr. Robbins [illegible] you from Grafton to Chicago. I have replied [illegible]

I am very glad to receive your favor of Aug. 9th and to know that your journey was happily completed and that your first impressions were so favorable. I feel that these first impressions are of great moment and are the pledge of your future happiness and success in your work. You do not refer to Miss Ward. I trust she is quite well and happy. Please [illegible] kindly to her as well as to the Halls, and [illegible] when you wish to go [illegible] sympathies and prayers in your behalf.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

P. S. Please say to Mr. Hall that I have his favor of Aug. 11th and am much obliged to him for writing. Before this he must have received instructions from the Interior Department as well as my letter enclosing a copy of a letter from the Department concerning the embarrassing restrictions that have been imposed on him by the Indian agent. It seems there has been some mistake in the matter, but I trust now everything is all right, and every facility will be furnished Mr. Hall by the agent that he can desire in pushing forward his enterprise. I ask you to communicate this to save my time. C

Aug. 18. 0.

Aug. 19. 0.

Miss S. B. Pike,
Ft. Berthold, D. T.

Dear Miss Pike:

I was very glad to receive your favor of Aug. 9th and to know that your journey was happily completed and that your first impressions are so favorable. I feel that these first impressions are of great moment and are the pledge of your future happiness and success in your work. You do not refer to Miss Ward. I trust she is quite well and happy. Please [illegible] me kindly to her as well as to the Halls, and rest [illegible] sympathies and prayers in your behalf.

Very sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark

P. S. Please say to Mr. Hall that I have his favor of Aug. 11th and am much obliged to him for writing. Before this he must have received instructions from the Interior Department, as well as my letter enclosing a copy of a letter from the Department, removing the embarrassing restrictions that have been imposed on him by the Indian agent. It seems there has been some mistake in the matter, but I trust now everything is all right, and every facility will be furnished Mr. Hall by the agent that he can desire in pushing forward his enterprise. I ask you to communicate this to save my time. C

Aug. 18.

Mrs. Henry M. Riggs.
Grafton. Mass.

Dear Mrs. Riggs:

I have a telegram just received from your husband asking if Mr. Robbins can accompany you from Grafton to Chicago. I have replied "I will arrange it if possible." I had just received word from Mr. Robbins of his purpose to remain, in accordance with advice from Sec'y Riggs, and go on to Santee Agency so as to attend the Annual Meeting of the mission. He will be ready I doubt not to go with you as desired by your husband. Please inform me at once when you wish to go, and I will write Mr. Robbins accordingly.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Aug. 10. 1880

Rev. A. L. Riggs,

My Dear Bro.

I have not yet heard what success you have had with Rev. Mr Stevenson of Iowa who propos^d to visit you & perhaps he might be ye new man for Fort Sully.

If that has fallen through I write now to say that our new Dist. Sec. Dr H. C. Haydn of Cleveland O. writes me of a "Rev. B. F. Shuart who from being a young layman among us took the short course at Oberlin & has been working with me (City Miss^y work Chapel &c) 4 years, an earnest capable industrious man, consecrated to X, lives at 95 Davenport St Cleveland" – It may be this is ye man. I cannot follow it up if Mr Stevenson is ye man. If not you may drop a line to Dr H. or Rev Mr Shuart making inquiries, or to me on the subject as you may find most convenient.

Mr Robbins hopes to come on with Mr Ward & Mrs H. M. R. starting the 23^d I believe. Ever tr.

E. K. Alden

Sept. 7. 1880

Dear General: Riggs &c.

No returns we get from
from the department of the Interior of funds
for our Dakota work. Why this delay? We
want this amount from the Government
to go into this year's account, and the books
close in a day or two. expecting very much
additional money. Funds additional is money
already voted for the N. G. Clark. It is
Gen. E. Whittlesey include all in the original
Assist. Sec. had a good deal of diffi-
culty in securing a vote for the
sum asked, but the grant was made
for $702.50 as asked. I still hope you
may have saved on the building
so as not to need so much. Please
inform me how this matter stands.

Sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark

Rev. A. L. R.
Santee Agency, Neb.

Sept. 11. 1880

Rev. Alfred L. Riggs &c.

Dear Brother:

Yours of Aug. 26th asking for permit to furnish on the schedule the new buildings at Santee agency, was laid before the Pru. Com. yesterday. The Com. was not expecting any such additional sums in addition to money already voted for the buildings. It is usual to include all in the original estimate. I had a good deal of difficulty in securing a vote for the sum asked, but the grant was made for $202.50 as asked. I still hope you may have saved on the buildings so as not to need so much. Please inform me how this matter stands.

Sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark

Rev. A. L. R.
Santee Agency Neb.

Sept. 16. 0.

Dear Sir:

I learn through the Acting Commissioner of Indian affairs that the account presented by me against the Department of the Interior for the support of schools in the Santee and Sisiton Agencies has been duly allowed in the Department and reported to you. I am instructed to look to you for the payment of the sum. Will you kindly send a draft payable to my order?

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark.

Sept. 21. 0.

To the Second Auditor of the Treasury,
Washington, D.C.

I sent you a letter under date of Sept. 16 and omitted my official signature and the witnesses which may have been necessary. I will endeavor to put this in the proper order.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark.
Sec. A. B. C. F. M.

Witnesses —
E. K. Alden
E. Strong

Sept. 21. 0.

To the Second Auditor of the Treasury,
Washington. D.C.

Dear Sir:

I learn through the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs that the account presented by me against the Department of the Interior for the support of schools in the Santee and Sisiton Agencies has been duly allowed in that Department and reported to you. I am instructed to look to you for the payment of the sum in question. Will you kindly send a draft payable to my order?

I sent you a letter under date of Sept. 16 and omitted my official signature and the witnesses which may have been necessary. I will endeavor to put this in the proper order.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark,
Sec. A. B. C. F. M.

Witness—
E. H. Allen
E. Strong

Sept. 22. 0.

To the Honorable
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
Dear Sir:

I send you herewith the articles of agreement in regard to the Indian work at the Santee and Sisseton Agencies. I did not notice till the papers were nearly signed the instruction to write my full name, hence having put down my usual signature I put the other over it according to the form required. I overlooked also that my name should have come second in order representing the second part. I am mortified at this oversight but trust the papers will not be vitiated thereby.

Very sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark

---

ing any thing to do with him, [illegible] not seem just the thing for us to give the time and [illegible] connected with us to interprises outside. I think our [illegible] would approve of an effort in our own way to develop an interest in this Indian work and would favor under suitable arrangements the coming of your brother Thomas and a native pastor with him to visit to some extent in New England and elsewhere. Some plan of that sort will be considered here after the Annual Meeting - to come off next week, when we shall consider plans and measures. - But the present plan does not strike our Committee with favor - though we would be glad of some arrangement that should make an agreeable change

Sept. 29.

Rev. A. L. Riggs
Santee Agency.
Dear Sir:

Your favor of Sept. 18th in regard to your brother going as an interpreter for Mr. Greycloud in aid of Mr. Tibbals and Miss Brighteyes was presented to the Committee yesterday afternoon. It is the very decided conviction of the Committee that the plan proposed would not be a wise one. We do not wish to be mixed up in any wise with Mr. Tibbals. His character is by no means unquestioned in this quarter, and many of our friends would feel very much hurt by our having any thing to do with him; - besides, it does not seem just the thing for us to give the time and strength of those connected with us to enterprises outside. I think our Committee would approve of an effort in our own way to develop an interest in this Indian work and would favor under suitable arrangements the coming of your brother Thomas and a native pastor with him to visit to some extent in New England and elsewhere. Some plan of that sort will be considered here after the Annual Meeting - to come off next week, when we shall consider plans and measures. - But the present plan does not strike our Committee with favor - though we would be glad of some arrangement that should make an agreeable change for your brother Thomas whose faithful labors at Ft. Sully are duly appreciated here.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark.

for your brother Thomas whose faithful labors at Ft. Sully are duly appreciated here.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Sept. 30. 0.

Gen. E. Whittlesey, Asst. Sec.
Indian Bureau, Washington, D.C.

Dear General:

I have a good deal of trouble in getting funds out of the Treasury Department for our Indian work. I was informed from the Acting Commissioner that our claim had been sent to the Second Auditor's Office and that my correspondence would hereafter be with him in reference to the funds in question. I have just received from the Auditor this statement under date of Sept. 25th. – "Sir: Your claim for $1907.24 for educating schools at Santee Agency, Neb. and Sisseton Agency, Dak. under contracts March 9th. and 15th., 1880, has been allowed. When the Interior Dept. issues the requisition, a draft for the amount will be sent to you." After having received word such as I have from the Interior Dept. am I to re-present my claim to that Department and ask them to issue the requisition? or will you kindly ask this favor in my behalf? Please write me or present the case to the proper authorities as is most agreeable to you.

Very sincerely yours,
N. G. Clark

Oct. 21.

Mr. James C. Robbins,
Santee Agency, Neb.
Dear Mr. Robbins:

Your favor of Sept. 30th was received by due course, but pressure of engagements and illness on my part have prevented an earlier reply. Thanks for your financial statement as well as what you say of the work. We will pay your expenses through, including those to Sisseton Agency. It will be quite in rule to do so, and I think the trip to Sisseton was eminently helpful to you in preparation for your work. You have seen the results of others' labors and will feel encouraged to strike hands with them in the most hearty way. We are looking for spiritual results in your mission field. I hope no pains will be neglected by personal efforts to win individual souls to the love of the Master. - I am not well in these days and cannot write more than to assure you of our cordial regard and best wishes.

Very sincerely yours,
F. G. Clark
By E.K.A.

Oct. 27 '80

Rev. Alfred L. Riggs:

My dear brother.

I write to you at the suggestion of Dr Alden, to say that I hope to visit Santee Agency for a day or two. Dr Clark is not well enough to go to the Woman's Board meeting at Chicago, & I take his place. I shall leave Chicago certainly by Friday morn & possibly Thursday evening, of next week; & shall proceed as rapidly as possible to Santee Agency. It would be very pleasant if I can spend Sunday Nov. 7th with you.

Will you please write to me, Care of Dr Humphrey, Chicago, on receipt of this.

Very Respectfully Truly Yrs
John A. Means.

Oct. 21. 1880.

Rev. T. L. Riggs,
Fort Sully. Dak.
Dear Sir:

Yours of Oct. 11th is at hand. I write now to learn if I can just what you mean by your letter, on several points. First of all let me say that we appreciate very highly your valuable work at Ft. Sully. You have done remarkably well there — there is no question of that, and have shown an ability and achieved a success that no two new men placed in the field could have accomplished in twice the time. Secondly — We have done our best to secure men for your mission to re-inforce you at different points and have really done more for you relatively than for any other mission field with a single exception. The men we have needed have not been found. We have actually today despite all our efforts five less missionaries in the working force of the Board than a year ago — counting in new men at that. This is due to losses by death and absence caused by illness. In these circumstances we do not appreciate at their full weight the criticisms made by [illegible] of your mission on us for not adding more men to your mission. We have not been negligent of you. We could send you men of a certain sort, but you would wish them sent back before they had been with you long. These censures on us when we have done our best are not altogether welcome. Thirdly- I do not understand what you mean by your reflections on our conservatism and failure to realize the importance of the Indian work. Of course you see the needs of your field and it is your privilege and duty to press them. We see, also, the pressing needs of other fields. You suggest a 100,000 endowment for Santee. Has there been any lack on our side in supplying what is needed for that field? - Any lack of means as far as they could be used? I think you have no occasion to criticize us in that regard. The inside work we would be glad to see is earnest spiritual labor among the Indians to whom you have access; - not school work simply and the building up of a great educational institution at Santee or elsewhere, but such an inside work as shall bring those Indians to the saving knowledge of Christ. Such results will awaken interest through our churches as nothing else will. I have a great deal more faith in our work on the ground than I have in what is being attempted at Hampton and Carlisle. Those agencies catch the popular favor just now, but I do not apprehend from them anything like the results that are to come from our work on the ground. I should be glad of such facts as we can spread before the public through the Missionary Herald or other agencies as may keep up an interest in our own proper work. Such facts have not always been furnished us in time past in such a way as we could use them.

I cannot write more at the present but beg to call your attention to some of the points just named.

I have looked up your letter of Mar. 18th and I find there was an item of business there which should have had attention. I was so much interested in what you have done in getting so many of the natives to be homesteaders that I overlooked the question you raised of conveying the title of the land on which our mission building stands to the Board. It stands in your name now I suppose. You say you shall prove and pay up during the ensuing summer. I will call the attention of the Prudential Committee to this at once and report, begging your pardon for this long delay. But I have, as you suggest, a good deal of matter to look after, and this was overlooked at the proper time.

Very truly yours,
N. G. Clark

P.S. Oct. 27. The item in your favor of Mar. 8th which I overlooked, relating to the title to the land on which our mission buildings stand, was brought to the notice of the Committee yesterday. They favor your conveying the title to the Board or holding it in your own name as trustee for the Board — whichever form is most convenient for the object, — and they will advance you the amount — about $250 as we understand — which you have paid for it, or may pay to secure the title in due form.

C

approve of its senti-
ments. There is no record of any vote
that it shd be forwarded to Washington.
It is not mentioned whether it is a memorial to
the Board or to Congress, or to Ind. Department.
I do not think therefore that any protest of the
Board to the Govt was at that time pre-
sented, & it of course if not presented, it
could not be sent. I find no other
allusion to it afterward.

Last Summer
in June we sent a vigorous remonstrance
from our Pru. Com. to Washington
which has been acknowledged & has
been the subject of considerable cor-
over

Nov. 5. 1880

Rev. Jos. Ward,

My Dear Bro.

Yr favor of Novr 1st is at hand. The record of the Milwaukee meeting is that a memorial from the Dak. Mission was laid before the Bus. Com. & at their recommendation was referr to Com. on Dak. mission of which you were Chairman. Your Com. refer to the memorial & approve of its sentiments. There is no record of any vote that it shd be forwarded to Washington. It is not mentioned whether it is a memorial to the Board or to Congress, or to Ind. Department. I do not think therefore that any protest of the Board to the Govt was at that time presented, & of course if not presented it could not be sent. I find no other allusion to it afterward.

Last Summer in June we sent a vigorous remonstrance from our Pru. Com. to Washington which has been acknowledged & has been the subject of considerable cor-

over

correspondence. The Department
has always treated our com-
munications with respect.

J. O. Means will
be at the Conference for the Board
taking Santee Agency on the way.

Hoping you may have a
meeting of power under the
guidance of the Divine Spirit

I remain
Most truly yours
E. K. Alden

P.S. We shall send to Dr Means copies of
our correspondence with the Department, showing
that they promised in Aug last to take
measures to make inquiries & reform
abuses. We expect them to make good
their word.

Nov. 6

Nov. 12, 1880.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec.
Santee Agency

Dear Bro:

I report to you today the appropriations made for your mission for the next year, amounting to $5401. Several items were omitted because, as I understand it, the sums asked were for persons not yet engaged, and for some items which require further explanation, as follows: The lady teacher at Sisseton $300; steward [illegible] $500; [illegible] $[illegible]; superintendent of work-shop $400; Mrs Robbins' salary less by $100; young men's hall $650; cisterns, eaves troughs, [illegible] $[illegible], making an aggregate of $2400 reduction. Some of these objects I have no doubt you will make in due [illegible] in regard to many questions as the result of conference with you. In making up our appropriations for the year it was necessary to include your mission; hence it was done in the general appropriations. We felt obliged to reduce somewhat in nearly all the missions in view of the very large sums asked, amounting to nearly $250,000 in advance of our

Nov. 12, 1880.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec.
Santee Agency.
Dear Bro:

I report to you today the appropriations made for your mission for the next year, amounting to $15,401 20. Several items were omitted because, as we understand it, the sums asked were for persons not yet engaged and for some items which require further explanations, as follows:- The lady teacher at Sisseton $300; steward, Ft. Sully $500; one teacher at Santee $350; superintendent of workshop $600; Mr. Robbins's salary less by $100; young men's hall $650; cisterns, eaves troughs &c $150, making a aggregate of 2650 $2450 reduction. Some of these objects I have no doubt you will need in due time. We wait also to hear from Dr. Means his views in regard to many questions as the result of conference with you. In making up our appropriations for the year it was necessary to include your mission, hence it was done in the general appropriations. We felt obliged to reduce somewhat in nearly all the missions in view of the very large sums asked, amounting to nearly $250,000 in advance of our receipts the past year. We could not take all this advance out of the Otis legacy with any propriety, in the hope to keep on in that way very long. A wise economy has required some reduction and it is expected that the utmost carefulness will be observed by our missionaries everywhere in expenditure. You may find it practicable to save at some point so as to have means for some of these objects now omitted. We trust the great carefulness and prudence of the mission in this regard. The reduction made on Mr. Robbins' salary was made without conference with him, supposing that the sum allowed him would be adequate to his needs. Should it be otherwise, the Committee will undoubtedly restore it. On all these matters we desire of course the fullest confidence and freedom.

Your favor of Oct. 29th is at hand. I note what you say of the action of the Memorial to the National Council. I think I sent you a copy of my letter to Mr. Schurz in regard to the restrictions. I also reported I think the reply of the Department that my letter would have consideration and the matter in question be arranged doubtless to the satisfaction of all in due time. Hence no reference was made to this matter in the Annual Report for your mission, presented at Lowell. I did refer in my Survey to the condition of things and expressed the hope that the matter would be well arranged. I presume the Council will take it up as there seems to be great delay in considering the matter at Washington and there have been several other matters on hand, very happily adjusted on Tuesday of last week, which have taken up the thought of the Department I presume. I note what you say of the Norwegian, [illegible], the Lutheran, whom you have engaged for a little time; but many matters of detail you will consult Dr. Means about and will hereafter have your correspondence mainly with him. In a late letter, you refer to contracts with the Government for the current year. Such contracts have been duly made under date Sept. 21st, 1881 for the school at Santee Agency and at Sisiton Agency on the same basis as last year; the limit of expenditure at Sisiton being $1,000 and at Santee $1500. The bills can be made out as you suggest, but I should prefer presenting them all at once to collect pay on them, as it is a very serious matter in getting these matters through at Washington. — I send a P.S. to this letter, such as is sent to all the missions, for your consideration. Sincerely yours, N. G. Clark, &c. —

Nov. 13. 1880.

Mr. James C. Robbins,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Dear Mr. Robbins:

I was very glad to receive a letter from you some time since and have regretted my inability to reply to it sooner. I have the impression that I did send you a few words, but as I have no record of the fact I beg to repeat the great satisfaction we feel in the report you gave of your visit to Sisseton Agency. I hear very pleasan accounts of you from Mr. Riggs. He has the feeling evidently that our work is on so much smaller scale at Santee Agency than you have been accustomed to that you will feel a little embarrassed by the contrast. I trust not however. If you have less pupils to care for you will have the more time to master the language and to labo for their spiritual welfare. This latter work I fear has been neglected in consequence of the pressure of other duties. You know we regard that as of first moment. It is a good thing for Indians to be educated and to be instructed in industrial arts in order to their future success in life, but the motive force which will lead to all such culture and improvement must be their faith in the gospel of Christ. If they become truly Christian men, they will then seek all other advantages, with a new motive and with a higher purpose.

I write just a word in reference to your allowance. It was put down in the estimates at $600. This seemed to us more than you would probably need; hence we put the figure at $500. How is this? Will you kindly and frankly let me know just how the matter seems to you? I do not know just what you pay for your board and what expenses you may incur. You may rest assured of our desire to supply what is really needful for your happiness and success. Do not hesitate to write me frankly about it. Perhaps you have already spoken with Dr. Means on the subject.

With Christian regards and best wishes for your happiness,

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Nov. 22 80

My dear Mr Riggs:

I left St. Louis Monday Aft. last, just before the report on the Dakota Memorial was reported from the Com.: this delay of the Com. made it impossible for me to write from St. Louis, as I had proposed to. I met the Com. several times, explaining matters as far as I could, & saw the report & resolutions as the Com. agreed upon them. You have doubtless seen, before now, that a Commission is appointed to communicate with the govt in cooperation of the Presb. Com., in the interest of perfect religious liberty for the Indians & of perfect freedom of teaching on the part of missionaries.

After leaving your hospitable home, I rode to Yankton, & spent the night at Mr Ward's. There in the Eveng I saw Miss Brown. Tuesday morng, in company with Mr Ward, I set out for St. Louis via Chicago, as the best route on the whole. We reached St. Louis Thursday morng: I left Monday eveng: spent Tuesday & Wednesday at Chicago: a part of Thursday at Oberlin: & reached home Saturday Aft. –

You have heard from Boston during my absence, I suppose. I write to thank you & Mrs Riggs for your generous hospitality. I greatly enjoyed my hurried visit. Please remember me kindly to your brother & wife, Mr Robbins, & the ladies whose acquaintance I was permitted to make,

& believe me, Very truly yours.

John O. Means

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

which give reason to believe that he has
landed on the coast & made his way up
to the healthy highlands where the climate

Nov. 27. 1880.

Proprietor of Lock Box 732, Scranton Pa.

My dear Sir. Letters were rec'd from you, dated Oct. 8th 1879, & Nov. 19th, expressive of special interest in our African missions & indicative of an intention possibly "if a mission be established in Central Africa soon, of sending a draft for $1500," with still further hopes for the future. — Secretary Alden has replied to your communications & furnished you from time to time with documents published by the Board on the African missions. As the care of these now falls specially to my charge, I write to let you know that our proposed missions are actually commenced & that devoted men & women are on their way to new & wide fields of labor in that great continent.

On the Eastern side, Rev. Mr Pinkerton, with an assistant & a Zulu evangelist, is now, doubtless, [illegible] not far from Umzila's kraal, if not actually himself there. Letters rec'd from will give reason to believe that he has landed on the coast & made his way upward to the healthy highlands where the climate will be salubrious, or at least more salubrious than on the border of the ocean. The accounts from him, & the results of his conversations with gentlemen who have acquaintance with the region, prove clearly that this is "one of the strategic points for missions South of the Zambesi". As soon as Mr Pinkerton arranges the preliminaries, others will join him in the new work. Rev. E. H. Richards & wife sailed from New York early in Oct., & are by this time at Natal. They will stay there & learn the language & mission methods for a few months, & then proceed to Umzila's territory. Mrs Richards has read a fair medical education. She & her husband are from Ohio, & graduates of Oberlin: he also of Andover Theol Sem'y.

Meantime, on the Western side an advance has begun towards Bihé. The first company, comprising Messrs

Bagster, Sanders & Miller, were heard of at Porto Praya, Cape de Verde Islands, Oct. 16th, & probably reached Benguela before the close of that month. They are thoroughly equipped, & will proceed inland at once. We are now in communication with others to follow them: especially a physician. Great expense is involved in both these expeditions. It is believed that the constituency of the Board feel, as you do, that even at such expense, efforts should be made in this direction.

We hope your interest is not abated & that your good intentions of giving for this & similar undertakings will be carried into practical effect.

Respectfully & very truly yours,

J. O. Means
Secy Am. Board

Dec. 1. 1880.

Rev. T. L. Riggs.
Dakota Mission. Ft Sully.

My dear Mr Riggs:-

Your letters of Nov. 9th & Nov. 18th were rec'd in due time. I was somewhat nearer you when they were written, as I was making a very hurried but what proved to me a very interesting visit to the Santee Agency. As it is expected that the correspondence with the Indian Missions shall fall to my care, Dr Clark wishes me to acknowledge your letters. I hope in due time to have myself personal acquaintance with you. Were you present at the annual Meeting at Milwaukee? Dr Clark, at that meeting used almost the same language that you use in your letter of the 9th when you ask: "Have you any true understanding of the fact that the status of Christian enterprise & the success of religious effort in behalf of the Indians of our Country for the next ~~two~~ 20 years can be foretold within ten years?" At Milwaukee Dr Clark one very deeply interested in the Indian Mission declared that "the next ten years would decide the religious condition of the Indians in our Country for all time".

It seems to be admitted on all hands that the work to be attempted for the Indians must be done at once. It is very desirable that light be obtained from every quarter as to the best way of doing what needs to be done. Those who, as you say of yourself, are "born & brought up in the Indian work" ought of course to be able, from their experience & observation, to make most valuable suggestions. Due consideration will be given to the matter which you open in your letter of Nov. 18th. The fact that numerous & extensive buildings have been completed this year at the Santee Agency, with the expectation that the educational work of the Mission was to centre there, of course has been thought of by you, with other obvious practical difficulties to which you allude without naming them.

Let me say that when at Santee Agency, following a suggestion of Dr Clark, I had some conversation with your brother Alfred & asked whether it might be well for you, with Grey Cloud & some other Indian preacher, to come eastward, if you would & thought best to, & speak on Indian Missions. Since returning I find that, in the opinion of the Prudential Committee, Mr Tibbles & his company have so completely traversed the field & filled the public with Ponca & kindred matters, that it would not be a good time for our missionaries to get a fair hearing. I mention this as your brother may possibly have communicated with you respecting it. Things have changed since I went west: our missionaries, & you if you came, would follow where the bush has been thoroughly beaten. It seems best therefore to attempt nothing in this direction. Perhaps, in any case, you would not have been willing to leave your winter work: it was intended to leave it to your choice.

Meanwhile, it is desirable to make the most of our Missionary Herald as a channel through which to keep the churches informed of all facts of interest touching your mission. I hope you & your associates will take very special pains to communicate incidents & matters of interest for the Herald. These are just what are needed for the Herald & needed [illegible] mission by the public.

With best wishes & earnest prayers for you & your coworkers,

I am, Very Truly, Your
Servant & fellow laborer in the
Lord Jesus Christ.
John O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

Dec. 1

My dear Mr Riggs:-
Perhaps you will remember a conversation I had with you about your brother Thos. L. R. [illegible] east, if he felt disposed [illegible] could leave his station [illegible] with Grey Cloud a small [illegible] Indian preacher & speaking [illegible] upon our Indian [illegible] & the work you are doing.

I confess that the [illegible] upon me, after [illegible] & it seemed to [illegible] after it would [illegible] helpful to the Indian Missions. I [illegible]

But while I was gone, I found a [illegible] of Boston [illegible] this company have been covering the whole field, [illegible]

Dec. 1

My dear Dr Riggs:—

Perhaps you will remember a conversation I had with you about your brother Thos L. R.'s coming east, if he felt disposed to & could leave his winter work, with Grey Cloud & some other Indian preacher, & speaking upon our Indian Missions & the work you have done & are doing.

I confess ~~that~~ the matter grew upon me, after I left you, & it seemed to me ~~that~~ if feasable it would be very helpful to the Indian Missions.

But while I was gone, I found on reaching Boston, Mr Tibbles & his company have been covering the whole field, multiplying meetings & giving the public so much talk on Ponca & similar matters ~~that~~ people are getting wearied.

Evidently it would not be well to do anything, certainly at present. I stated the matter to the Prudential Committee, yesterday, & in the state of affairs they would not recommend it so ~~that~~ nothing had better be attempted.

I was writing to your brother Thos L. R., & as you may have communi~~cated~~ of conversation to him, I have told him of the changed condition of things, & ~~that~~ no proposition therefore to come eastward will be made to him.

My room is darkened as I write by fast falling snow. Nearly the first we have had this winter. When the storms rage I think of you in your little community at Santee. May the Lord keep you all in health & in His peace & with Him. Regards to Mrs Riggs & Mr Robbins & Miss [illegible] & wishes [illegible] Mr & [illegible] & the children.

Very truly yours

J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs

Santee Agency

Dec. 6. 1880,

Mrs. Maria De W. Rogers,

Bristol, R.I.

Dear Madam:

Your favor of Dec. 3d with enclosure was received this morning. Thanks for the generous offering [illegible] privilege ~~and~~ of [illegible] my good friend Mr. Collins [illegible] pain to learn that he is not happy in [illegible] the work at Santee [illegible] Dr. Means has [illegible] out there [illegible] suggested a variety of modifications [illegible] more spiritual [illegible] bility and greater freedom of action [illegible] of the work [illegible] two days visit, that [illegible] several important changes and he has so reported [illegible] there. Dr. Alden, who visited Santee Agency some time since, fully agrees in [illegible] of such changes. I cannot but hope that they will be made in a manner to give our friend ample scope for his work, and in a way that will be acceptable to him. Does he write you that he has talked the matter over kindly and

---

[illegible] fy with Mrs Riggs and with Mrs Riggs [illegible] the remark in regard to [illegible] I would be glad of some further information [illegible] his relations to his associates. Can [illegible] letters? I wrote [illegible] reply. He is a man [illegible] and will [illegible] like you [illegible] all have [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible] can [illegible] try [illegible] sending me [illegible] excuse me [illegible] care of this [illegible]

Dec. 6. 1880.

Mrs. Maria De W. Rogers,
Bristol, R. I.

Dear Madam:

Your favor of Dec. 3d with enclosure was received this morning. Thanks for the generous offering to our Treasury and for the privilege ~~and~~ of ~~the pleasure~~ of reading this letter from my good friend Mr. Robbins. It has given me no little pain to learn that he is not happy in his relations to the work at Santee Agency. Dr. Means has just been out there and seen ~~him~~ the work, and has suggested a variety of modifications in their work to make it more spiritual and to give individuals more responsibility and greater freedom of action. He felt, on examination of the work as it was presented to him during his two days' visit, that there was need of several important changes and he has so reported to us here. Dr. Alden, who visited Santee Agency some time since, fully agrees in the importance of such changes. I cannot but hope that they will be made in a manner to give our friend ample scope for his work, and in a way that will be acceptable to him. I see he writes you that he has talked the matter over kindly and fully with Mr. Riggs and with Mrs. Riggs? I note his remark in regard to Henry. I would be glad of some further information touching his relations to his associates. Can you not kindly send me some other letters? I wrote James some time since, but have had no reply. He is a man of most delicate, sensitive nature and will only communicate his thoughts freely to those like you whom he has known and loved long. We all have a very great regard for him as a true man and one of just the spirit and character we desire to introduce into our Dakota mission. He has a field there of valuable service and we will do what we can here to make arrangements that will be satisfactory if we can know just what is to be done.

Thanking you again for your kindness in sending me Mr. Robbin's letter which I trust you will excuse me for submitting to Dr. Means to whom the care of this mission will now be especially confided,

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

Dec. 15th 1880.

Gen. E. Whittlesey. Asst Secy
Board of Indian Commissioners
Washington, D.C.
Dear Sir

Your favor of Dec. 13th inviting me to attend the Annual Conference on Indian Affairs in New York on the 13th of Jany 1881 was received this morning. As we are now expecting that Rev. J. C. Means. D.D. will have charge of our Dakota Mission, I would be glad to transfer my invitation to him. Shall I do so, or rather will you kindly extend the same invitation to him to be present as proposed? You ask why do we not collect for our contract schools as other Boards do. Simply for the reason that I had so much trouble in getting my last bills through that I thought such trouble once a year was about as much as I could undertake. However, at your suggestion I will write, or suggest, to Dr. Means that he write, for the needful vouchers to be presented in due course.

And now that I am writing, I beg to call attention to another matter. In the latter part of September there appeared an article in the Ad-

over

me" on "Confidence in our benevolent societies". The last paragraph was a great surprise to me and I felt that very great injustice was done to me as Secretary, and to the Board, and statements made which must tend to impair the public confidence in our management. The first item has been followed up in correspondence with Gen. Howard and no satisfaction is yet secured. In a later number of the "Advance" the promise was made that the name of the Chairman of the Committee and the name of the Secretary would be given to the Board, if asked for. We did ask for those names. The alleged Chairman of the Committee was written to, and he denied the entire statement so far as he was concerned. In the first place he never had seen Mr. Treat angry; in the second place, never have received any such draft of a report from him; and thirdly, was never Chairman of a ~~the~~ Committee of the Board. Then our attention was called to another gentleman as Chairman and he expressly disclaimed receiving any such report, or ever having had any such experience with Mr. Treat. We are still on the track of that Chairman and of any evidence which will justify that statement. I supposed at first the reference was to myself; but we learned that Brother Treat was the unfortunate man; and we are now gravely told, and congratulated on the fact, that the practice of preparing drafts of reports to be put in hands of Chairmen of Committees has been discontinued. This is news to us here, also, as we have never known of any such custom or of any individual draft having been so made out. – But enough of this. – After the passage referred to, follows a statement that the Chairman of a similar Committee complained that "after the report of his Committee had been made to the Board when it came to be published in the official proceedings a paragraph was omitted without authority which conflicted with the favorite theory of certain missionary operations". Our Editor and myself have looked up this matter and we are led to suppose that you were the Chairman of the Committee in question. We find that a paragraph was omitted in the report which you presented, – just as it has been the custom to omit paragraphs in reports in order to abridge them for publication. In the Herald the fact has been stated that abridgements were made. There was no design whatever in omitting the paragraph, beyond the purpose of abridgement. I knew nothing of it till my attention was called to it by the Editor. I have examined the passage omitted and find nothing in it to conflict with our views, and nothing that I would have objected to having published in any wise. This explanation I am glad to make to you, and I trust it will be satisfactory. It is never our custom to publish reports in full unless they are brief. Any recommendation made in reports and duly voted by the Board, are alway published. The usual form of action you have noticed doubtless, which is, that a report is received, and recommendations, if any, are adopted. The Board never adopt reports, as such, unless there is something special in them in the way of recommendation or suggestion which has been duly considered by the Board at its session. But I will not enlarge on this matter further, only to express my great regret that there should have been any misunderstanding on the part of one to whom we have been so much indebted in many way in time past and whom we have gladly reckoned among the warm friends of the Board.

Very sincerely yours,

John G. Clark.

Private.

Dec. 18. 1880

My dear Mr Robbins :–

Will you please write me in full & with details just how your time is occupied: what work you are undertaking: how many scholars are under your charge, of what ages, & how much charge of them you have: & generally how your new missionary life is opening?

I understand that Mr Henry Riggs is feeling some disability in his knees. If he should be absent, do you think you might be able to take the charge he now has of the Young men's Home? With the rest that you are doing, would you have time & strength & courage for this & such outside work as might belong with it?

It is not necessary that you speak of this to others, as perhaps Mr Henry Riggs may not prove to be as unwell as I have supposed.

With best wishes & many prayers for your successful labors, Very truly yours

John O. Means.

Mr J. C. Robbins.

Dec. 18.

Rev. Thos. L. Riggs.

My dear brother:–

In the letter of your brother, Rev. A. L. Riggs, of Sept. 18th, forwarding the estimates of the Dakota Mission, was an item which escaped Dr. Clark's notice & for which no provision has yet been made.– Your brother Alfred mentions it in a recent letter, & I write at once to you for information about it to make a statement to the Prud. Com. for a grant to meet it.

The item is thus stated:– "Travell & expenses of Thos. L. Riggs in several Expeditions to Spotted Tail & Sisseton Agencies & in trips with Peoria Bottom Indians to secure their homesteads at U.S. Land Office $200.–

House for native teacher & outstation [illegible] Peoria [illegible]

As to [illegible] Is this [illegible] expenditure [illegible] in travel not [illegible] Your [illegible] Your [illegible] to be [illegible] suppose it [illegible] it is [illegible] for missionary [illegible] what he is likely to need in doing his work on his field. Such however that I may be able to answer inquiries the Prud. Com. are likely to make. When the Secretaries have unusual travelling expenses, the Prud. Com. expect & are accustomed to have a statement of the [illegible] actually expended. [illegible] the house for native [illegible] house: will [illegible] to give [illegible] the amount [illegible] repairing [illegible] their buildings? [illegible] for building this house.

[illegible] this week I [illegible] account from [illegible] of your little boy. [illegible] him; Mr. Greeley & Clark [illegible] for him, but he was not at home.

With best wishes for success in your Master's work,

Very truly yours

J. O. Means

Sec.

U. S. Land Office $200.-
House for native teacher & outstation school house at Peoria Bottom 100.-
$300.-

As to the travelling expenses:- Is this the actual amount expended outside of your salary in travel not connected with your own mission & which your salary is not supposed to be sufficient to cover? I suppose it to be so, of course, as it is understood that the salary of a missionary sh^d include what he is likely to need in doing his work on his field. I ask however that I may be able to answer inquiries the Prud. Com. are likely to make. When the Secretaries have unusual travelling expenses, the Finance Com. expect & are accustomed to have a statement of the precise sum actually expended.

As to the house for native teacher & school house: will you be kind enough to give some details? Is the amount for buying, or for repairing, or for enlarging these buildings? Is sum the for building the houses, of course.

At Bangor this week I heard a sad account from his neighbors of your little boy. I hoped to see him; Mr Greasley Clark sent for him, but he was not at home.

With best wishes for success in your winter's work.

Very truly yours
J. O. Means
Secy.

Dec. 18 0.

Mrs M. R. Morris:-

My dear Madam.

In a letter from your brother, Rev. A. L. Riggs, of Dec. 8. he quotes from a letter rec'd from you in which you speak of "the woman needed at your Station". He also alludes to "Miss Thompson's sudden removal". Dr Clark did not know or recollect any lady of that name.

I wish you wd please write to me in full about your need of a teacher or teachers: what kind of a woman do you most require, to do precisely what kind of work, & of what special qualifications?

Perhaps provision may be made to send you such a helper.

At any rate, we will attempt it if you will set forth your wants in a way in which we can present the need to some good women.

Who was Miss [illegible]? How was she engaged & how long?

Who is Annie Roberts? also allow me to ask.

I have been called to look after the matters connected with the Dakota Mission. The missionaries will be patient I trust, if my inquiring is for information.

Respectfully & very truly
yours
J. O. Means.
Secy.

Dec. 22. 1880.

Gen. E. Whittlesey,
Board of Ind. Commissioners,
Washington, D.C.

Dear General:

Your favor of the 20th is at hand and [illegible] not at all disappointed in the very generous and Christian manner in which you refer to [illegible] Advance. I could not [illegible] believe that you entertained [illegible] toward me as [illegible] Let me add one or two items [illegible] in our schools in the Dakota field. [illegible] believed in that and have done what I could to secure instruction [illegible] in order that our young men should be prepared to meet with English speaking settlers and so [illegible] with our American citizens as rapidly as possible. Our only point of difference with the Government on this subject is this — Our work is missionary work and not simply educational. The Government, of course, looks only to the educational side. As a missionary body, we must regard the

Dec. 22. 1880.

Gen. E. Whittlesey,
Board of Ind. Commissioners,
Washington, D.C.

Dear General:

Your favor of the 20th is at hand, and I am not at all disappointed in the very generous and Christian manner in which you refer to the article in the Advance. I would not, and could not, believe that you entertained any such sentiment toward us as had been suggested. And now let me add one or two items.- As to the English in our schools in the Dakota field. I have always believed in that and have done what I could to secure instruction in English in order that our young men should be prepared to meet with English speaking settlers and so be blended in with our American citizens as early as possible. Our only point of difference with the Government on this subject is this.- Our work is missionary work, and not simply educational. The Government, of course, looks only to the educational side. As a missionary body, we must regard the religious side. Hence, as everywhere, we feel that religious instruction is to be given largely and most effectively in the native tongue, so we wish instruction in that with a view to the best religious impression. In a community not brought into contact with English or Americans in any wise there is less need of the English; though in nearly all of the high schools sustained by the American Board at present, especially in all such as are preparing young men for the ministry, English is taught in order that the stores of religious knowledge in the English tongue may be opened to our rising ministry. I have conferred with Mr. Riggs several times on the matter of English in our Indian schools. He has always claimed that better work was done in English in our schools than in the Government schools; that oftentimes men could read English and write English without understanding a word of it, and that examinations had been had in Government schools in which apparent knowledge of English was passed off for real. Our contracts now with the Government imply English instruction. Of course the difference between us and the Government in this matter is fundamental, and we cannot properly change our methods, save to favor English in our schools as far as practicable consistent with the other and higher object of our work.

And now another item. Mr. Riggs has been invited by the commission appointed by the President to go out as an interpreter for the commission to investigate the Ponca matter. I wish that you and that Mr. Schurz might understand just how this matter is. We have never said or done anything here in favor of this Ponca movement. We have believed in Mr. Schurz and have accepted his very valuable services in behalf of the Indians. We feel that the present administration has done a grand work in their behalf. We are sorry that Mr. Schurz has got involved in this minor question which fills the eyes of so many people. I could wish he had taken a different position at the start on this matter, and had asked of Congress means to restore them to their home in Dakota, provided they really wished to go, and that arrangements had been made to secure other information on the subject. This Mr. Tibbals is a man in whom I have no confidence. As to Mr. Riggs - let me say; - we were asked some time since to allow him to join a commission that should be organized by a Boston Committee in concurrence with the President to go out to the Indian territory. We did not favor it. We did not wish Mr. Riggs or the Board to be mixed up in this matter in any way. Now that a commission is to go out, appointed by the President and a commission of the highest character, and we are asked to let Mr. Riggs go as an interpreter, we could not well decline and so assent to the arrangement. I hope Mr. Riggs will be judicious and not allow any personal feeling or interest he may have to stand in the way of doing his duties as an interpreter faithfully and impartially. He will be in Washington I suppose soon to meet the Indians there. I may say that I have been sorry to hear of Mr. Riggs criticisms on the management of the Board among the Dakotas. I feel that they are entirely unjust. We have spent, the past year, large sums on the work at the Santee Agency and elsewhere. But Mr. Riggs' views are often impracticable and his estimates very large, and it would be altogether unwise for us to attempt anything like what he has in view. We have not favored his attacks on the Government in this matter of the restrictions imposed on our work. I have not felt satisfied that no attention was ever given to the letter sent Mr. Schurz on this question of religious liberty for all denominations to work as a foretime. The letter was simply acknowledged and attention thereto was promised. I felt that it was not wise for us to get into the newspapers or call public attention to this matter in any way; hence I wrote a full statement to Mr. Schurz, hoping to call his attention to it and have the ruling of the Commissioner of Indian affairs set aside - namely Mr. Hayt's confirmed by Mr. Trowbridge. It seems that the Presbyterians have appointed a Committee and the national council of Congregationalists another Committee, to bring this matter before the authorities, and possibly before the public. I regret this sort of thing, as I would not embarrass the administration in any wise in this matter. I know something of the embarrassments attending this whole thing and the difficulties the department has to meet in its works, hence would not embarrass it in any wise if I could avoid it.

Very sincerely yours,

N. G. Clark

P.S. I may add that the Dakota Mission requested us to allow Thomas Riggs and an Indian preacher to join Kibbell in going about the country, and we at once declined. He is not after our style — C.

Some time ago, a telegram came the 22nd making inquiry, & replied at once that we thought you ought to go. — I trust good may be done. — Pleasant Christmas greetings, & New Years wishes, to Mrs Riggs & the children, & to all of you!! Very truly yours

J. O. Means

Dr. A. L. Riggs,

Dec. 27 88

My dear Mr Riggs:- I write this on the peradventure it may reach you; but I suppose you have already left home. Mr. Goddard called last week, and it was arranged that if agreeable to you, You should go as interpreter to the commission.

He was to have telegraphed that the Secretaries approved of your going, but does not seem to have done so. A telegram came the 22nd making inquiry, & I replied at once that we thought you ought to go. — I trust good may be done.-- Pleasant Christmas greetings & New Years wishes, to Mrs Riggs, & the children & to all of you!!! Very truly Yours

J. O. Means

Rev. A. L. Riggs,

Dec. 27, 0.

Rev. S. R. Riggs,
Beloit, Wis.

Dear Sir: In a recent no. of the little Dakota Paper notice is given that you have some copies of "The Gospel Among the Dakotas" for sale. Please at once send ~~to~~ my address two copies, for our Library and charge them to Mr. Ward. Send me a bill or memo & I will pass it in to him that the amt. may be cr. ~~to~~ you. The Pub. Soc. have not a copy.

Very truly yours
C. N. Chapin
Room 14
No. 1 Somerset St.
Boston, Mass.

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desirable for him to do so. We must do our best to supply his place as [illegible]

Dec. 27, 1880.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec.
Santee Agency, Nebr.

[illegible] the work generally [illegible] be a subject of [illegible] to [illegible] glad [illegible] of him [illegible] us [illegible] he [illegible] mission [illegible] a missionary [illegible] better for [illegible] reached [illegible] him to retire from [illegible] in charge as soon as practicable. The Prudential Committee do not feel justified in appointing anyone as a missionary who [illegible] good health and strength and who may not be expected to render entire service. Your brother has never been fully settled in his own mind as to his duty in the matter of engaging in the work for life, and now his health is such as must evidently make him feel — and make you all feel — that it is not

Dec. 27, 1880.

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Sec.,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Dear Brother:

The statements you have made in reference to brother Henry's health, his weakness in the knees and inability to attend to his duties as he would be glad to do and as would be expected of him engaged in missionary work, have led us to feel that it is not desirable that he should be formally connected with the mission as a missionary, and it may be better for him to retire from his present trust in charge as soon as practicable. The Prudential Committee do not feel justified in appointing anyone as a missionary who is not in good health and strength and who may not be expected to render entire service. Your brother has never been fully settled in his own mind as to his duty in the matter of engaging in the work for life, and now his health is such as must evidently make him feel - and make you all feel - that it is not

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desirable for him to do so. We must do our best to supply his place as soon as may be. This matter, however, the work generally in regard [illegible] be a subject of correspondence [illegible] and Dr. Means hereafter, as the Indian [illegible] desirable for him to do so. We must do our best to supply his place as soon as may be. This matter, however, and the work generally in regard to your mission, will be a subject of correspondence between you and Dr. Means hereafter, as the Indian work is now passed over to him. I write now simply because of having written you formerly on the subject of Henry's appointment as a missionary.

We shall hope to hear good of your assisting the commission just appointed by the President to visit the Poncas in the Indian territory. I hope as the result of movements in progress that satisfactory conclusions will be reached.

Very sincerely yours,

J. C. Lowrie.

P.S. As suggested in former letter, I think you for your own sake and the best good of the cause should pass over to others fully once for all, ~~freely~~ responsibilities for different departments of your work — not even giving advice except when asked. Put responsibility on others. It will do them good. If matters take a bad turn, then only step in. — E

Dec. 29 80

My dear General:

Dr Clark wishes me to take his place, & has passed over to me the invitation to be present, at the meeting of the Commissioners in New York Jany 13. — The Report for 1880 of the Com. of Indian affairs is not published. Can you put me in the way of obtaining it, & other Indian Documents? Or, to whom shall I write for them?

Presdt Hopkins has called the Com. on Indian matters appointed by the Nat. Council at St. Louis, to meet at New York, Bible House No 39, Jany 11. 1881, at 12 o'clock M. At his request, I have invited several members of that Com. to be present at that time. This the day of our Prud. Com. meeting, so that I cannot be present: but was the best day for his Com., Dr Hopkins thought, on the whole.

With pleasant Xmas & New Years greetings to you all.

Very truly yours
J. O. Means

Genl E. Whittesey

Jany 1 81

My dear Leavitt:-

Dr Hopkins, of the Indian Com. appointed at St. Louis, has called his Com. to meet at the Bible House, 8th St. New York ~~next~~ Tuesday the 11th inst. He wishes very much to see the report of the St. Louis Com. & the memorial & other documents which formed the basis of action. Dr Moore writes me that you have these papers. Will you be kind enough to forward them to New York, care of Rev. Dr M. E. Strieby, who is of the Committee? Here of fail not, upon your honor please.

Happy New Year to you & Mrs Leavitt.

Faithfully yours
J. O. Means

Rev. Dr W. H. Leavitt.

Jany 5. 1881

Rev. Calvin E. Park:

My dear Sir.

Yours of the 3d inst. asking for "particulars in relation to missionary operations at the Santee Agency, Dakota, as they came to my knowledge during my recent visit," has been received.

In reply, I w^d say that I infer from your letter that the good ladies of the Branch Society of the W. B. M. are familiar, ~~I suppose~~, with the general condition of things at the mission. I was there from Saturday morning to Sunday noon, & had a pleasant & profitable visit. There is a Young man's Boarding School, & a Boys Hall, the last just opened: a Young ~~Wo~~men's Boarding School, & a building is just completed, "The Bird's Nest", for young girls. The work among the young women & girls is a most important & most successful one. By ~~the~~ testimony of all connected with Christian work among the Indians, too much stress cannot be put upon the instruction of the girls. Mr Janney, a Friend, formerly Agent at the Santee Agency, said: "The Indian women are less advanced in civilization than the men. They are shy & timid, & will have but little to say to any except women, & consequently the presence of white women among them will be of immense advantage. If you can commence the work of civilization among the women the civilization of the whole tribe will follow.

There are noble women at Santee, engaged in this Christian work. Sunday evening I was in the Women's Hall at evening prayers, conducted by Rev. A. L. Riggs, as he is accustomed to conduct it. He, after reading a portion of Scripture, repeated a verse from memory, & was followed by one scholar & teacher after another with some verse repeated in Dakota, till the circle was completed. The singing was spirited & spiritual. I bade the girls good night, & one after another crowded up to shake hands, & when I bade them good bye Monday morn, did the same. I was greatly pleased with all the exercises I witnessed.

The "Bird's Nest" was opened the week after I left; many of the smaller girls are be removed to it from the older house. Miss Paddock was to take charge, assisted by a new teacher, Miss Brown, whom I saw at Yankton on her way to the mission.

Monday forenoon, before leaving, I had a season of conference & prayer with the women who are "bearing the burden" in the mission; the teachers & wives of the missionaries. They want & they should have a deep interest in the prayers of all of you, specially of our woman's board.

Doubtless Miss Webb, from whom you say the ladies have letters, gives you particulars of individual Indian girls. My stay was so short that I could not make acquaintance with individual scholars; but I have before my eyes still the dusky faces of little girls who are to have the light of Christ's love shine in them, under the blessing of God upon the labors of our dear friends of the mission.

Commending them & all in all our other fields to your prayers,

I am, very respectfully, Truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Jany 10 81

My dear Mr Walter:-

Since receiving yrs of the 5th I have learned that the meeting of the Indian Commissioners at the Met. Hotel, N.Y. on the 13th will commence at 10 o'clock, A.M. It will doubtless continue thro' that day & Evening, & render it impossible for me to see you on the 13th. Therefore I propose that, unless you have other ways for disposing of yr time & wish to attend to other matters in New York, you come Friday, the 14th, & meet me at the Bible House, A.B.C.F.M. rooms, at 11 o'clock A.M.?

Very truly yrs

J. O. Means

Mr. J. K. A. Walter.

Jany 10 81.

My dear General:

I thank you for the 2d report, & enclose this acknowledgment.

Prest Hopkins I understand cannot be in New York the 13th as his College classes meet in the new term just then.

Very truly yrs,

J. O. Means

Genl E. Whittlesey.

Jan 11 81

My Dear Mrs Morris,

I have just recd a final answer to inquiries which I sent out sometime ago as to Rev. Mortimer Smith of whom you wrote to me. The reply receivd is very decisive from the very best authority knowing him thoroughly. It makes it plain that it will not be wise at all to encourage his application. I have written him accordingly. I am sorry for yr disappointment. But a mistake as to the man sent would be worse. Rev Mr Stewart with whom I have been correspondg also fails. We will keep trying.

Yrs truly
E. K. Alden
Home Sec.

Mrs Martha R. Morris.

Jany 18.

My dear Mrs Riggs

I thank you for your letter dated the 8th inst. which reached me Saturday. I had just returned from the annual meeting of the Indian Commissioners with the Secretaries of various religious Societies, & my thoughts were particularly upon the dear friends among the Dakotas. Especially during your husband's absence I have asked myself how you all managed in your home. It is most gratifying to learn that your kitchen labors are lightened. I hope you will all in some way manage to be relieved of the great burden of household anxieties.

My visit helps me imagin

better than I otherwise could
your daily toils. We do not
forget to remember you, not
only in your Indian work, but
in your family life, with your
children around you, & as it
one set sometimes perhaps
another, not around you.
He is a covenant-keeping
God, & his promise is to children's
children! — I sh'd have written
to Mr Riggs about some items
of business before this, but have
waited for his return from his
Ponca Commissioner's labors.
Please remember me most kindly
to the children: to Mrs Robbins:
to your brother & wife, & to the
ladies who are fellow-helpers
with you. Do not hesitate to
write to me for fear of encroaching
upon my time. My time is given
for such 'encroachments'. — With
most cordial New Year's greetings,
Respectfully & very truly, yours
J. O. M.
Mrs Mary B. Riggs.

1881

Dear Dr Kendall
Will you be kind enough to forward to me a copy of the memorial you read [illegible] last week, on Religious Liberty for Indians & for missy Societies working among the Indians.
Trust the presentation of your memorial will cause a revocation of [illegible] ruling [illegible]
Respectfully [illegible]

Jany 19 81

My dear Dr Kendall:

Will you be kind enough to forward to me a copy or ~~this~~ of the memorial you read at the meeting of Indian Com. last week, on Religious Liberty for Indians & for Missy Societies working among the Indians?

I trust the representations of your memorialists will cause a revocation of Commissioner ~~Dept~~'s ruling on this point.

Respectfully & very truly yrs,

J. O. Means

John W. Tawse Esq. Jan 20. 1881
Edinburgh

Dear Sir

At a meeting of the Commissioners in Boston held January 18th 1881 a communication [illegible] President Bartlett [illegible] asking that the [illegible] W. H. Luckadoo be [illegible] the Commissioners [illegible] a large part of the [illegible] for Board & fuel $128.30

Wash 6.00

[illegible] 3.85

$138.15

[illegible] in compliance with the above request [illegible] that the Secretary [illegible] to draw upon you for the sum of £28.15-8 ($138.15) at ten days sight to the order of L. S. Ward Treasurer of A.B.C.F.M. This I have accordingly done.

In communicating with me President Bartlett writes as follows:--

John W. Tawse Esq.   Jan 20 - 1881
Edinburgh - Scotland.
Dear Sir -

At a meeting of the Commissioners in Boston held January 18th, 1881, a communication was received from President Bartlett of Dartmouth College asking that the bills of the Indian youth, W. H. Luckade be again met by the Commissioners. The bills cover a large part of the year and are for

Board & fuel.	$128.30
Washing	6.00
Books	3.85
amounting in all to	$138.15

In compliance with the above request it was voted that the Secretary be authorized to draw upon you for the sum of £.28.15-8 ($138.15) at ten days sight to the order of L. S. Ward Treasurer of A.B.C.F.M. This I have accordingly done.

In communicating with me President Bartlett writes as follows:-

"We are importuned annually to render" to the aid of Indian youth from various tribes, but especially the Cherokees and Choctaws. and it is with pain I am obliged to reply that I have no means of knowing how far we can render that aid in the strength of the fund collected specifically for this purpose and now remaining in Edinburgh." He also request that I procure information as to

"First, what is the annual amount which we are entitled to draw from that fund".

"Second, whether there is not a considerable amount of unexpended income, which has been accumulating for some years and which we might properly expend for the cause of the Master and in the mode for which it was designed".

I was directed by our Commissioners at their meeting to report these inquiries to you and ask a reply at your early convenience.

I find by our Commission

that we are authorized to draw "to the extent of £140 each year and no farther". but for the past two years, certainly, not more than about £40 have been annually drawn. The inquiry I would make is whether the balance not drawn, is not still subject to order; and if so, what that balance is. I have not examined the record to see what sums were drawn in years previous to the last two.

I enclose with this a circular of the Dakota Indian School of the American Board at Santee Agency. From these pupils several are selected each year to go to some college or advanced school to be trained for teachers among their own people. We should greatly rejoice if from the funds in your possession aid could be granted to enable us to send one or more of these young men to Dartmouth College.

Hoping for an early reply I am.

Very respectfully, your servant,

E. E. Strong

Secretary of Commissioners in Boston

Copy sent to Friend B. Rush Roberts, Sandy Spring, Md.
Dr. Jas. E. Rhoades Philadelphia, Pa.
Rev. Dr. J. M. Reid, 805 Broadway, N.Y.
" F. M. Green, 180 Elm St. Cincinnati. O.
" Dr. Henry Kendall 23 Centre St. N.Y.
" Rush R. Shipman 7 Tremont Place Boston
" Dr. J. G. Butler, Washington, D.C.
" Dr. John G. Brown, Pittsburgh Pa.
" " M. E. Strieby 56 Reade St. N.Y. Jan. 20. 1.
" " J. C. Lowrie 23 Centre St. N.Y.
Rev. A. H. Irving 30 Bible House N.Y.
" Dr. H. C. Morehouse 28 Astor House offices, N.Y.

My dear Sir:

By a letter just received from Genl. Whittlesey, I learn that Sec'y Schurz, in a recent conversation, stated that nothing would suit him better than to remove all restrictions as to religious work in the Indian Agencies so soon as the several religious bodies would agree to it.

If you consent, will you be kind enough to sign and return to me the request on another page. I will forward it to the Secretary. The quotation is the text of the ruling in the communication to us from the Indian office, Aug. 13, 1880.

Respectfully and very truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Secy A.B.C.F.M.

Rev. Dr. J. M. Ferris,
Sec'y Board of Missions of Reformed Ch.,
34 Vesey St.,
New York City.

Copies sent to those on pp. 75

To the Hon. Carl Schurz,
Sec'y of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I respectfully request that the recent ruling of Commissioner Hayt of the Indian office which has been confirmed by Commissioner Trowbridge "that the various religious denominations confine their missionary operations among the Indians to the reservations assigned them" be revoked.

Jany 25 81

My dear Mr Robertson

I thank you for yours of the 18th just rec'd. [illegible]

We shall keep our memorandum about the Ugges.

Please excuse me to Mrs Robertson for not seeing her at your hotel in Boston. I was called away when I sought you found you had left the city.

I regretted it exceedingly.

With kind regards to her, Very truly Yours,

J. O. Means

Rev. J. D. Robertson

Jany 25. 81

My dear Mr Robertson:

I thank you for yours of the 18th just read. –

Mr Walter & Miss Wardlaw are now procuring their outfit & will leave this country very shortly. The exact day of sailing cannot be named now. –

We shall keep our memoranda about Mr Uggeses.

Please excuse me to Mrs Robertson for not seeing her at your hotel in Boston. I was called away when I sought you & found you had left the city. I regretted it exceedingly.

With kind regards to her. Very truly Yours. J. O. Means

Rev. J. D. Robertson

Jany 27. 1881.

My dear Mr Riggs:-

I have just written you a long letter about the appropriations, & now that is off my hands, will say a word about other things.

We were glad you could & did go with the Ponca Commission; good will come out of it in various ways. I say this, for I feared after I read your letter of yesterday you perhaps doubted whether we did anything more than acquiesce in your rendering ~~that~~ service. It was a good thing: thought it would be, before hand, but could not say more than I did by telegraph.

As to providing a teacher for Standing Bear's Company, we want to know a little more. The Com. will be ready to do what is best, they regard it favorably, but wish for more specific knowledge. — How near you are they to be, & how easily reached? (If they are to be near you at all.) Should the teacher be a man or a woman?

I wish to know ~~[illegible]~~ language she learned, or will the Dakota suffice? — Will a school house & residence have to be provided, or will provision be made for these in some other way? Have you anybody in mind suitable for this position?

We want as soon as possible a good teacher for Sisseton, as you know. One with good testimonials w^d be appointed at once. One sh^d be appointed who will undertake at once to learn the language.

We also want now, as has been said, a good missionary for Santee to relieve you of many lower cares & let you have more opportunity for the higher work which you only can do & which no one but you is equal to. And we want a good business missionary also, as has been said, for Fort Sully. We are praying for them. May the Lord indicate & influence the right men!

I have been expecting every week that Miss Thompson would send in her application & testimonials for appointment as assistant missionary.

Miss Shaw, also, I think has no appointment.

I have not time now to give full particulars about the recent meeting of the Secretaries & the Indian Commissioners. I brought it up & pressed a resolution for religious liberty to have the restrictions as to religious work taken off. There was unexpected opposition; efforts to defeat the matter by indirection. Finally, Genl Fiske & myself were delegated to bring the matter to the attention of the govt. Genl Fiske says he will urge it with me heartily. Meanwhile, thro Genl Whittlesey, I hear word from Secy Schurz that he wd be glad to remove the restriction & will do so when the Secretaries of the religious Societies agree to it. — I have written specially to all of them, & as soon as the replies are received, shall push the matter. Several have already signed the paper. I forwarded & others will, & I have no doubt.

at any rate, this matter will be pressed
to a conclusion & to the right conclusion.

Meanwhile, please tell me how it
is that the Dakota Mission Soc'y is now
sending a man to Devil's Lake. Of the
change of circumstances there, & how it
is now prudent to proceed, I sh'd like
to know. Dr Clark tells me that in a
number of your paper, a full account
was given by your father of the first
origin of all this interference & the restric-
tive ruling. The paper is missing from
our files. Can you send me one?

I hope you are not visited with
many blizzards this winter. We are
having a very cold season & quantities
of snow.

Please remember me most kindly to
your mother. Henry & give him my best
wishes for his good health hereafter wherever
he may be. Mr Robbins is well I hope. Re-
member me also to him & to all the ladies,

& believe me, very truly yours
J. O. Means

Rev. A. L. Riggs,

Jany 26. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother:- Yr two letters dated the 18th were recd yesterday.- Yrs, two, of Dec. 8. 1880, were recd Dec. 14.: as they related to the appropriations, & one item was with regard to Rev. T. L. Riggs's travel expenses, & buildings at Peoria Bottom, I wrote him for further information, & have waited his reply. His reply has not yet been recd. I think from a note from him recd a few days after I wrote to him, that he has been absent on an expedition, & this explains the delay. It explains also why I have not answered your inquiries.

1. As to the appropriations for 1880.- Your letter has been laid before the Com.: & they decide to grant some of the additions asked for, but do not see their way clear to do so in regard to others. The Committee find on their books, for 1880 the general appropriation was $15.800.: Subsequent grants, from Feb. 17th to Nov. 23d, $7227.50 making a total of $23.027.50; the seven items additional requested in the letter of Dec. 8th amount to $994. so if granted the appropriations for

1880 would sum up $24.021.50. – Of this, $750 for Miss'y teacher, & $600. for Sup. of Work Shop, making $1350., which are reported not used, are covered into the treasury: & also some small sums are reported from other agencies, not used, & covered into the treasury. The $2000. appropriated for Dwelling house at Santee, I said to the Com. would probably revert to the treasury, as when I was at Santee the building was not in process of erection.

By the rule & usage, & for the necessity of keeping the Treasurer's books in order, all sums appropriated & not used in the year for which they are granted, revert to the treasury. Unless my impression is incorrect, the dwelling house for which the $2000 was granted was not erected or begun in 1880, so that the money was not expended.

The Committee add to the appropriations for 1880: For 2 months salary, Miss Voorhees $60.–
" 2 1/2 " " Miss Brown 85.–
" 4 " " Mr Robbins 184.–
" 2 " Shoemaker 100.–
" stock in the Shoe shop – – – 100.–
" assistance to Steward Squire, in consequence of his ill health 175.–
The total additional grants for 1880 – $704.–

As to the other items: 3 months salary of Shoe maker will be added to 1881, making up the full 5 months for which you ask.

I think there was no apparatus for broom-making, & no instruction, in 1880. As soon as you ascertain particulars about the necessary apparatus, & the exact cost, & find one ready to give instruction, & advise the Com. as to the cost of teaching, I have no doubt the Com. will grant what is necessary – unless the cost should seem too great.

The Com. hesitated about the grant of $175. for assistance in the Santee Stewardship. They have great sympathy for your brother in his lameness. In view of the action they felt compelled to take, of which Dr Clark wrote Dec. 27. 1880, "retiring him from his present post as soon as practicable," the Committee finally agreed to make this allowance of $175. They notice that in 1879 the appropriation for the Stewardship at the Santee Agency Mission was $550.; for 1880 $750. has already been granted & this addition makes the amount for 1880 $925. for the stewardship.

As soon as practicable, we should appoint a suitable man for charge of the outside &

secular matters at Santee. For one to act simply as Steward & do no proper missionary work, it is hoped no more need be expended than in 1879. Mr Robbins, when at Hampton, had charge altogether of quite a number of the Indians. I think it will be well to ask him to take the Superintendence of the Young men's Hall, as far as your brother Henry has had it. Mr Robbins I believe will bear to have responsibilities laid upon him at once.

It is my impression that the desirable thing is, to procure & appoint an additional missionary for Santee, & select a man who has acquaintance with business matters & such work as needs looking after, while capable of doing some pure missionary work, as occasion offers. Please let us know, if you hear of such an one. We will be on the look out also. While the Salary must be, doubtless, more than for one who is only a Steward, the relief to you & gain in other directions will justify the Salary.

2. Now a few words about readjusting the appropriations for 1881. By an error of the copyist & oversight, there are inaccuracies

5

in the letter of Nov. 12. 1880 which naturally gave your perplexity. An item of $100. disallowed was not stated, & merely the items was stated so as to be misapprehended

The item of $100. was "Ft Berthold: furnishing chapel seats & stoves & sch. incidentals". asked for $260. granted $160. As the omission was by clerical error, or representation, the Com. has consented to restore the amount of $100. & so makes the grant asked for, $260. But it was thought $100. might be saved here, & it was previously voted to grant only $160. If now Mr Hale can get along with $160, we hope he will. The grant however is made $260 under these circumstances.

The other item not granted was: "Santee Agency. New well & water pipes at Dakota Home, Bird's Nest, Young men's Hall & New Hall for Boys. $650." The clerk simply copied the line "Young men's Hall" &c. omitting the previous line. The item "Expenses of Young men's Hall, $650" was granted & still stands. The other item, for new well &c for various buildings, was not included in the appropriation, & the Com. do not feel

Prepared to ~~grant it~~.

In response to your request for readjustment of the appropriations for 1881, this has been voted: additional

For salary of teacher at Santee – Miss Brown 350.
" " – Mr Robbins – increase 50.
For 3 mos salary of Shoemaker 150.
Furnishing chapel, seats &c at Ft Berthold – so as to make the total grant for this $260.) 100.
$650.

When a Steward shall be appointed by the Com. for Fort Sully, the salary will be granted. We think it more desirable to appoint a Missionary f. as. to do some of the outside work & also assisting teaching. As soon as one can be obtained he shall be. – Also, as soon as a lady teacher can be appointed as assistant missionary at Sisseton, the grant will be made for the expense. What you write & what Mrs Morris writes leaves no doubt that an assistant female missionary is needed there. As soon as one can be found whose testimonials show her to be fitted for the work, the appointment will be made.

The items in the estimates for Ft Sully, for travell g expenses of T. L. Riggs & house for native teacher &c at Peoria Hill be considered by the Com. when item & rights is read from your letter, as I stated.

Thus the appropriations for 1881 with reductions now stand thus:

Ft Berthold $2000.-
($160. if possible, however, instead $260.) 3150.
Sisseton
(Salary of lady assistant $300. not granted) 2560.-
Ft Sully
Salary of Steward $300. not granted.
Two other items reserved $300.
Santee 7791.-
Mr Robbins salary $550. & not $600. .. 50.
Sup. of work shop not granted, 600.
new well, water pipes, &c " " 650.
Cisterns & eaves troughs " 150. 150
Shoemaker, 3 pupils at Santee, additional, 400.-
Publications
$16.051.

One item stricken out & so left still, for cisterns & eaves troughs $150., may seem to you so indispensible that I shall not be surprised if you ask again that this grant be made. — As your letter did not name it, I did not ask the committee to do anything about it.

I have no doubt you can appreciate fully the absolute necessity the Committee is under of saving wherever a dollar can be saved & of making every appropriation after the closest scrutiny. It is very trying to them to strike out what seem indispensable grants.

In another letter I shall speak of the other matters about which you inquire.

With special regards to your family, & with many prayers that after the first weariness is over your recent trip away may prove reinvigorating to your health, & that great spiritual results may come to the cabins of the million

Most Sincerely Yours,

J. O. Means.

Jany 28 81

[illegible]

quarter [illegible] does not now recall how the other blank vouchers were obtained.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means

Genl E. Whittlesey

Jany 28 81

My dear General:

I thank you for yours with the enclosure, of the 24th. Where & how are the Blank Vouchers procured for payment from the Govt of the Schools? I want some vouchers, to collect the last quarter payments. Dr Clark does not now recall how the other blank vouchers were obtained.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means

Genl E. Whittlesey

Jany 28 81.

My dear Mr Ward. –

Will you please forward to me, as a testimonial for our files, your judgment of Miss Brown, now teaching at the Santee Agency, & whose pleasant acquaintance I made at your house. She has not yet made the formal application for appointment. On every account, for her own comfort & security & for her work's sake, it is desirable she should. I have just written her to this effect. –

Will you please show this to Mr Sheldon, & ask him also to forward a testimonial. ie knows Miss Brown very well.

Jany 28 81.

I believe [illegible] Various matters have crowded upon me, so that I have not had time to write you about the meeting of the Secretaries & Indian Commissioners at New York the 13th inst. — Of course you have read the minute of the Sharp doings of your Committee the morning previous. Dr Atkinson & Dr Strieby communicated the resolutions to the Commissioners. — The week also previous Dr Hopkins was here & saw the Pru. Com.; but your Committee as such have had no communication with our Board, & seem to have forgotten — the fraction which acted in New York — that they were to confer with the officers of the Am. Board jointly with them bring the matter before the authorities at Washington! — In haste, with best wishes

Very truly Yours, J. O. Means

Per. Jos. Ward.

Jany 28 81.

My dear Miss Brown:— When I had the pleasure of meeting you at the Wards, as you were on your way to the Santee Agency, I was not aware that you had not formally made appn of your services & recd an appointment from the Pres. Committee as an assistant Missionary.— On every account, it is desirable that this should be done. It gives to you your proper position & privileges & responsibilities & brings you into your proper relations with the Board.

I forward a copy of our Manual from which you will see the orderly course to be pursued by all who sustain such a relation as you are to sustain to our Mission work. It is necessary for the usual testimonials to be forwarded & placed on the files of the Com. The medical certificate should be from the medical man at the station – unless you prefer some one else.

Please ask me any questions if there is anything not plain to you in the Manual.

I hope you are having a pleasant & successful school term.

With kindest regards to the ladies with you.

Respectfully & very truly yrs
J. O. Means

Miss Harriet A. Brown
Santee Agency.

Private.

Jany 28. 1881

My dear Mr Ward:—

By official notification you have learned what was done & left undone by your Com. appointed by the Nat. Council on the question of religious liberty.

There does not seem to have been a quorum: but those present seem to have gone on & acted as tho' they were a quorum.

The Com. was appointed to bring the matter contained in the resolution of the Council touching liberty of religious teaching ~~to the~~ before the proper authorities at Washington. Instead, they have — thus far — adopted resolutions of their own touching the Indian question at large, & are bringing these before the authorities. Their resolutions are, that nothing can be done about ~~religious~~ agency liberty of teaching till the Indian has full civil rights & land in severalty. But when he has full civil rights there is no longer any question as to liberty of religious teaching: so that nothing can be done for religious liberty till there is no need of doing anything. The Com. of

for your private information, to speak more freely than it would be best to speak aloud at present, or here, unless absolutely needed. With kind regards to Mrs Ward, Very truly yours J. A. McLean.

the Com. think the Indian ought not to have full civil rights at once, but gradually; that for 25 or 30 yrs he sh'd not be permitted to dispose of his land for instance. Meanwhile, is nothing to be done for religious liberty?

So far as I can see, the one thing for which the Com. was created & the one thing the Com. was directed to press upon the authorities at Washington, it is resolved to be unwise to attempt at present.

But education at Hampton & in Oregon must be pressed at once.

Certainly the Indian sh'd be educated. The civil rights of the Indian sh'd be secured. But the Council asked of this Com. for one special grievance, in response to a memorial: that restrictions upon religious teaching might be removed.

For civil rights Congress must act; & years may elapse before it shall be carried thro' Congress. For what the Council desired, immediate relief, if not complete relief, could be obtained by bringing

Such influences to bear upon the Indian Department as to have its ruling revers'd. Here is an immediately pressing, highly practicable thing which the Council wanted done.

Your Com. was "to confer with the officers of the Am. Board, & jointly with them bring this matter before the authorities." Even before the Com. met, Dr Hopkins was present at a meeting of our Pru. Com. which appointed a Sub. Com. to confer with your Com. But your Com., in its action at New York, has not conferred nor consulted with us. We have not even rec'd any information of what they did. Your Com. appointed a Sub. Com., Messrs Atkinson & Shieby, to lay their action before the govt. This Sub Com. laid their resolutions before the Ind. Commissioners at New York, & being present I heard them read & took notes. But for this, we sh'd be ignorant that any thing had been attempted. I presume, but do not know, that having presented their resolutions to the Ind. Com., they do so also to the authorities at Washington. They have not asked us to join them in any action at Washington.

I noticed that the absent members of Joint Com. were to be informed of what was done by those who met at New York. Does the Sub-Com. go forward without any assent or dissent from the rest of Joint?

In the Board of Commissioners at New York, I proposed some resolutions about the restrictions, copying the language of the resolutions of our Nat. Council & of the Presb. Commissioners. Dr Reid of the Meth. & Dr Strieby, & others, were not prepared to pass them. They did not wish absolutely to vote against them, & so by indirection laid them on the table. Finally Genl Fiske & myself were appointed a Com. to see the Presdt & Secy Schurtz. Genl Fiske says he agrees with me & will sustain our position.

Meanwhile, I learn thro' Genl Whittlesey that Secy Schurtz is ready to revoke the obnoxious ruling as soon as the Secretaries of the Missy. Societies consent. I am corresponding to secure their assent; & think I shall get enough signatures to succeed. If not, then we shall go to Washington & press the matter in other

It is important that the ruling be rectified before this administration goes out. I am confident it will be done. Write this

Jany 28 1.

My dear Mrs Morris:

I thank you for yours of Jany 13th. recd on the 23d.. It seems evident that you need a lady teacher, & should have one as soon as possible. As soon as a suitable person can be found, the Com. will be glad to make the appointment & provide for the salary. If Miss Thompson, of whom we know only what you have written, is the right one, & if there is a likelihood that she can & will return & accept an appointment for permanent work. it will be well, as you say, to look no further. I judge from your letter that there is a good deal of uncertainty about her returning. How soon can you ascertain?

Jack, because there is a lady now teaching near St. Paul [illegible], a Miss Cathcart who has many qualifications for this work, & also is willing to receive an appointment, & has expressed interest in teaching the Dakotas. We are not altogether certain as to Miss Cathcart. There is not in other missions just such a position as she seems fitted to

[illegible]

[illegible] me.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

pern.

[illegible]

[illegible] : Slove regard

the [illegible] since of many years ken

[illegible] West

[illegible] death.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Phelps [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] A. C. M.

take. We shall not appoint her at once; until she is needed & on further inquiry is ready for joining your Station.

Please reply as soon as you can speak definitely about this person.

We think of you often during this severe winter; severe beyond the experience of many years here tho' the accounts from the West & South represent the weather more severe elsewhere. The present indications are that the appeals for Indians are to have practical results upon the govt in righting some of their wrongs.

May the Lord bless you abundantly in your life & labors. Respectfully & very truly yrs

Mrs M. A. Morris. J. O. Means.

Jany 31 81

My dear Mr Riggs:

In yr letter to Dr Clark of Oct. 29. 80 you ask about [illegible] of the [illegible] present [illegible] if the [illegible] in the [illegible]

The present [illegible] Schools at [illegible] & [illegible] expires in [illegible] 81. [illegible] blanks [illegible] these [illegible] the bills [illegible] & forward [illegible] the money collected. I shall be greatly obliged to you. Hereafter, it seems to me desirable to collect the money each quarter. If you can do it for the Santee School, can you also write & have it done at Sisseton? I [illegible] commit it to you to visit, or I will write about it to Sisseton. I will also forward blanks [illegible] can be [illegible] You know [illegible] the ~~blanks~~ applicates, or [illegible] the figures today [illegible] Santee or [illegible] Sisseton. I hope you continue in good health all of you & that your [illegible] are getting rested. Do [illegible] the [illegible] at both [illegible]

With kind regards to Mrs Riggs, Very sincerely yours

J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

Jany 31 81

My dear Mr Riggs:

In yr letter to Dr Clark of Oct. 29. 1880 you ask about the renewal of the Contract for the Schools for the present fiscal year: & propose, if the contract is renewed, to send in the bill for the first quarter.

The present Contract for the Schools at Santee & at Sisseton expires in June, 1881. If you need blanks, u can procure them at the Agency, & will have the bills made out in due form for the quarter already due, & forwarded to me, I will have the money collected: & shall be greatly obliged to you. Hereafter, it seems to me desirable to collect the money each quarter. If you can do it for the Santee School, can you also write & have it done at Sisseton? If not convenient for you to do it, I will write about it to Sisseton. I will also forward blanks, if none can be had at the Agencies. You know, I think, whether the ~~blanks~~ bills must be in duplicates, or in triplicates.

I am making inquiries to-day about a man for Santee or Ft Sully.

I hope you continue in good health, all of you; & that you yourself are getting rested. Do not burn the candle at both ends.

With kind regards to Mrs Riggs,
Very sincerely yours
J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

Feb. 8. 1

My dear General:

In your letter of Jany 18th you wrote: "Sec'y Schurz yesterday told me that nothing would suit him better than to remove all restrictions so soon as the several religious bodies would agree to it." I immediately wrote to the Secretaries, & I forward herewith the requests of nearly all that the recent ruling of Commissioner Hayt be revoked. Mr Roberts, of the Friends, is dead, & my letter was returned from his widow. This branch of the Friends undoubtedly agrees with the other, for whom Dr Rhoads speaks, & who concurs in the request. Dr Morehouse, of the Baptists, Dr Lowrie, of the Presbyterians, Dr Strieby, of the Am. Miss'y Association, Dr Ferris, of the Reformed, Rev. A. T. Twing, of the Prot. Episcopal, Rev. R. R. Shippen, of the Unitarian, & Dr Butler, of the Evang. Lutheran, & Mr Hardy & myself in behalf of the Am. Board, press the request. — I sent a letter to the representative of the Catholics: we know that they favor removal of the restriction. I have received no reply from Dr Brown of Pittsburgh, of the U. Pres.: from

Mr Rowland, of Salem, Oregon, of the Christian Union, & from Dr Reid, of the Methodists, New York City. — Of the 13 denominations named on page 124 of Report of Ind. Com. for the year 1879, eight join in this request for rescinding the order, besides two not on ~~that~~ list but who were present at the meeting of the Indian Commissioners in New York, namely, Rev. F. M. Green, Secy of the (Campbellite) Genl Missy Convention, & the representative of our American Board: in all, ten societies.

Now will you be kind enough in our behalf to bring this personally to the attention of Secy Schurz, & lay these requests before him.[2]

Of course, you will reinforce it with such additional considerations as you think proper.

Respectfully & very truly, yours,
J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board

Hon. E. Whittlesey,
Board of Ind. Com.
Washington.

Feb. 15th 81

My dear Mr Riggs:-

You will be glad to hear that Secy Schurz has responded favorably to our representations & revoked the obnoxious ruling of Com. Hayt, by which religious work among the Indians was restricted to the denominations having appointment of agencies.

As the Com. appointed by the Nat. Council to confer fact with our Board said nothing to us, but appealed, & proposed to appeal to the Govt on Indian matters in general, we went forward alone. We obtained signatures of a large majority of the Secretaries of the Missionary Societies, asking for the revocation

Feb. 16. 81

of the Mission, by which the liberty of teaching & preaching was restricted. Our request backed by that of so many others was successful. Gen. Whittlesey writes, Feb. 12: "Secy Schurz yesterday agreed to your request & in my presence issued orders to that effect."

The wild snow storms of the winter you must feel very severely. They have deranged the mails, I suppose, & this explains why replies have not reached us to our letter of Jany 27th.

With kind regards to all.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs

Feb. 16 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother. -

In a letter which Mr Ward read last night you speak of not having read letters from the Secretaries as to the appropriations. - Two letters were sent to you, Jany 27. From the long delay I began to fear they had miscarried; which now seems the fact. Copies of them are sent you by this mail. You must have greatly wondered indeed.

I also wrote to Miss Brown, from whom no reply has come. Perhaps her letter failed to reach her.

I wrote to Mrs Morris, at Sisseton, at the same time, saying there was a lady whom we were ready to appoint for teacher at Sisseton,

if they would like to have her.
Mrs Morris has not replied. The interruptions due to the snow storms made me fear letters were miscarrying.

I wrote you yesterday that the religious teaching restriction of Com.r Hayt was revoked.

We are on the track of a good man to go to Santee as missionary, to relieve you of the outside secular labors you are burdened with.

Hoping to days letters will go safely, & with best wishes to you all.

Sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

Feb. 23 81.

My [illegible] Mrs Morris:

A [illegible] been [illegible] been irregular this [illegible] afraid I have not [illegible] you have not [illegible] you will not think [illegible] that I write [illegible]

We have a [illegible] a teacher whose testimonials [illegible] are so [illegible] ready to appoint her [illegible] as a teacher. She wishes to go to the Dakotas. She is now teaching near Minneapolis: Miss Cathcart. I have delayed action upon her application till we could hear from you as to whether you desire such a teacher [illegible] Thompson [illegible] testimo= [illegible] Pres. [illegible] her? As [illegible] the chances [illegible] would you [illegible] appoint [illegible] think [illegible] teacher [illegible] she be [illegible]

I shall be glad to know your views & wishes as soon as may be; & hope you will be most abundantly blessed in your manifold labors.

Respectfully & truly yours,
Mrs Martha R. Morris. J. O. Means.

Feb. 23 81.

My dear Mrs Morris:-

As travel has been interrupted & the mails have been irregular this winter, I am afraid I have not rec'd your letters or you have not rec'd mine. So you will not think it strange that I write to you again.

We have a lady of experience as a teacher whose testimonials are so satisfactory that we are ready to appoint her asst Missy to join you at Sisseton as a teacher. She wishes to go to the Dakotas. She is now teaching near Minneapolis: Miss Cathcart. I have delayed acting upon her application till we could hear from you, & ask whether you desire such a teacher. Is Miss Thompson coming back? Will her testimonials be such that the Pru. Com. will appoint her? Do you prefer to take the chances of her coming back? Would you like to have us appoint a teacher to go to Sisseton?

In case you should think it desirable to have a teacher appointed, how can she be lodged & boarded?

I shall be glad to know your views & wishes as soon as may be; & hope you will be most abundantly blessed in your manifold labors.

Respectfully, & fraternally yours,

Mrs. Martha R. Morris. J. O. Means.

Feb. 23 81

March 4

My dear General:-

I was very greatly rejoiced to receive your note of the 12th inst., saying that Secy Schurz in your presence gave directions for revoking the ruling of Comr Hayt - so called. I am greatly obliged to you for the invaluable assistance you have rendered.

Nothing has yet been received by us from the Department. Are we not to expect something official? I wish you would be kind enough to make inquiries as to this. Before the 4th of March, I hope there will be an official statement. Very truly yrs.

3rd E. Whittesey. J. S. Means.

March 4 1.

Dear Miss Webb:-

Your most welcome letter, dated Feb. 8 & post-marked Feb. 24, has just arrived. I am very thankful that you have written so fully & from your own heart & experience. These details are just the things we desire to have, & the specific suggestions. I want to be able to see you in your home, & know how you are moving on day by day, & what trials & perplexities come, & what occasional rays of sweet sunshine break in upon you. Since my visit we have not ceased at our family altar & in secret places to bear you individually before God in prayer. We have been moved of late to pray specially for your [illegible] spiritual [illegible] of the Holy Spirit [illegible] upon you [illegible] life.

As to the [illegible] letter, that [illegible] might be [illegible] to the ladies of [illegible] household cares [illegible] excited [illegible] was [illegible] mind [illegible] that relief [illegible] imperative; for your own good, for your [illegible] fitness & the work in which we are engaged. You need & must be able to have more time for study of the language, & for the various kind of spiritual work which cannot be classified nor explained. It is not well for yourselves nor for [illegible] that you should be hurried & crowded. You must [illegible] leisure, even for the best results.

[illegible] your suggestion [illegible] housekeeper [illegible] to take your [illegible] figuratively of [illegible] you are so [illegible] married now [illegible] good day - as well [illegible] some one who can look after the [illegible] - is what is needed. We will pray to the Lord to provide [illegible] housekeeper & spare no pains [illegible] our part in finding out such a

altar & in secret places to bear
you individually before God in
prayer. We have been moved of
late to pray specially for your own
spiritual growth & ~~that~~ the comfort
of the Holy Ghost might sustain &
cheer you in your daily life.

As to the special burden of your
letter, that there might be relief
to the ladies of manifold & pressing
household cares, as you recall, it
excited my lively interest when I
was with you – & has been on my
mind ever since. It is clear to me
that relief is imperative: for
your own good, for your usefulness
& the work in which we are engaged. You need & must be able to
have more time for study, of the
language, & for the various kinds
of spiritual work which cannot
be classified nor explained. It is
not well for yourselves nor for
your charges that you should
be hurried & crowded. You must
have some leisure, even, for the best
results.

It seems to me your suggestion
of a good, strong, warm-hearted,
willing, motherly housekeeper –
one strong enough to take you
up in her arms, figuratively if
not literally, when you are so
over-taxed that wearied nerves
give way in a good cry – as well
as one who can look after the
girls – is what is needed. We
will pray to the Lord to provide
this housekeeper: & spare no pains
in our part in finding and taking

She is to in securing her services.

If any of you can think of any one fitted for this place, let us know. We will do our best here to fill her place. The expense must be & can be & shall be provided for.

The intelligence of religious interest among some of your pupils is most gratifying. May still more of them be found yielding to our Lord!

Now I wish you would tell your associates that you have written us just such a good long personal letter as we like to receive; & ask them to go & do likewise. — Write at once upon the reception of your letter that you may rest assured of our fullest sympathy in your daily experiences. With special regards to Miss Paddock & your other associates.

Respectfully & very truly yours,

Miss Susan Webb.
J. O. Means.

March 12 81

My dear Dr Atkinson :-

I thank you

inclosing copies of the

[illegible] which we asked

March 4 81

My dear Mr Riggs :-

Yours of Feb. 28th, just rec'd, says ~~that~~ you have not rec'd ~~the~~ copy of my letter accepting ~~the~~ estimates. I wrote to + inclosed in separate envelopes, Jany 27th, two letters, very long each of them. Feb. 16th I forwarded a copy of one of these letters, ~~that on the estimates~~. I will wait a few days to learn whether or not ~~the letters turn up~~. Soon after you please reply at once, if you have or have not rec'd ~~these~~ letters.

With kindest regards, My truly yours

J. T. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

March 12 '81

My dear Dr Atkinson:-

I thank you for yours of yesterday, inclosing copies of the minutes of the Committee appointed by the Congl Council at St. Louis upon the question of Religious Liberty for the Indian.

After the meeting of the Indian Commissioners in New York last Jany, the matter was pressed upon the Indian Department again; & in answer to our representations, in which a large majority of the representatives of other Missionary Societies agreed, the Dept made a ruling, March 2., restoring & securing the religious liberty for which we asked.

Very truly yours,

Rev. Dr. J. H. Atkinson.

J. O. Means.

March 16 81.

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother:-

I have recd from your brother T. L. R. the explanation desired of the amounts asked for in the Mission estimates for travelling expenses & for the repairs of the school house at Peoria Bottom, & yesterday the Prudential Committee cheerfully granted the additional amounts which you may therefore add to the grants as follows:

For travelling expenses of Rev. T. L. Riggs several expeditions to Spotted Tail & Sisseton Agencies & in trips with Peoria Bottom Indians to secure their homesteads in the U. S. Land Office - $200.

For house for native teacher & outstation school house at Peoria Bottom. $100.-

Total $300.-

March 16 81

Your brother writes that he will in a few days send some outline of his recent work, which it will be most serviceable to have printed in the Herald. We need sorely to have as many particulars of interest to the large circle reached by the Herald of matters pertaining to our Indian work. Perhaps we have suffered from not having as much in the Herald as there might have been. The number who see the Herald is indefinitely larger than the number who see what is printed in the newspapers.

We sympathize with you in your severe winter. We have a farewell to missionaries for Turkey on the 30th inst. Please remember them in your prayers.

With kindest regards to Mrs Riggs & the children, Very truly, yours,

J. O. Means.

March 16 81

Rev. Thos L. Riggs,

My dear brother.

I thank you for your letter of Feb. 22. which reached here on the 11th inst. I was gratified to learn of your return after the expedition which must have been a fatiguing one. What you promise, some particulars of your experience, will be most gladly read. We need for the Herald all that can be well said to awaken & sustain interest in our work - your work - among the Indians. It's amazing how many who ought to know better seem to think that the great Indian work is done at Hampton & Carlisle; & are ignorant of what is going on among the tribes in their own Country. It will be found that the Xtians who pray most for missionaries are the ones who habitually get their missionary intelligence from the Herald more than from Newspapers. And while every way of scattering information sh'd be used, it is vital to our missionaries that their trials & hopes & joys & successes be narrated, as far as proper, in the Herald.

Your explanation of the two items in the estimates, for traveling expenses $200. & for the School house $100. were satisfactory to the Com. & the grant was at once made accordingly. I have written to Rev. A. L. R. to this effect. — With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

March 17,

Dear Miss Webb:

Since writing you on the 4th inst. I have been making inquiries for a good woman to assist you. A friend asked me yesterday how Miss Faxon of Quincy, who formerly had a school there, would answer: & suggested that you probably knew all about her & could judge whether, if she was disposed to go to Santee Agency, she would answer. Before making inquiries in this direction I should like to know what you think of her, if you do know her. I have not seen her just now, & shall not make any approaches till I learn indirectly as to her fitness for the position. It is not even known that she would entertain the proposal if it were made to her. But in all these cases we have to make many blind approaches before getting directly.

I hope you are having a good school term. A letter just rec'd from a cousin of Mrs Mears at Sivas, Turkey, where she has been in charge of a dozen girls for a couple of years, speaks of delightful

She was disposed to go to Santee Agency, she would answer.– Before making inquiries in this direction I should like to know what you think of her, if you do know her. I know not even her first name, & shall not make any approaches till I learn indirectly as to her fitness for the position: It is not even known that she would entertain the proposal if it were made to her. But in all these cases we have to make many blind approaches before acting directly.

I hope you are having a good School term. A letter just rec^d from a Cousin of Mrs Means at Sivas, Turkey, where she has been in charge of a dozen girls for a couple of years, speaks of delightful religious interest. May the Lord bless your scholars in their conversion.

Please remember me kindly to your associates, & believe me,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Miss Webb.

March 26. 1881

in the endeavor to awaken missionary [illegible]

Dear Miss [illegible]:- [illegible] also

letters [illegible] day

has just come. I supposed that the trains were

belated [illegible] were probably waiting

there for Miss Thompson & therefore have un-

derstood [illegible] Mr. Snow

of the Micronesia Mission [illegible] return, has

learned [illegible] Miss Cathcart, & is so eager to have

her that [illegible] whether or not

she would be ready [illegible] it did not

seem right to retain [illegible] Miss Cath-

cart has been designated to the Micro-

nesia Mission. Of course nothing would have

been done until Miss Thompson was heard

from. Now let us hope she will decide to join

you, & ~~that~~ her testimonials will be forwarded

in due time. If she fails, then let us be

guided of the Lord to some one else. It

is plain that you need a good, capable

assistant. I found your letter on

returning from Montreal, where with Dr

Clark I have attended missionary meetings,

March 24 1

Dear Mrs Morris:-

Your letter of March 9th has just come. I supposed that the trains were delayed, & that also you were probably waiting to hear from Miss Thompson, & therefore have understood the delay. Meantime, Mrs Snow of the Micronesia Mission, soon to return, has learned about Miss Cathcart, & is so eager to have her that in the uncertainty whether or not she would be needed at Sifetu, it did not seem right to retain her: so now Miss Cathcart has been designated to the Micronesia Mission. Of course nothing would have been done until Miss Thompson was heard from. Now let us hope she will decide to join you, & that her testimonials will be forwarded in due time. If she fails then let us be guided of the Lord to some one else. It is plain that you need a good, capable assistant. I found your letter on returning from Montreal, where with Dr Clark I have attended missionary meetings, in the endeavor to awaken missionary interest. I saw there a Miss Baylies, who labors in the summer season among the Indians on the northwest border of Lake Huron. Her station is alone & apart from all others: she has no associate or English speaking friends near her. She has been so engaged more than ten years & is still bright & cheery for the coming season. We have a farewell meeting next week Wednesday for seven new missionaries about to depart. May the Lord bless all His faithful workers! He knows His hidden ones.

If Miss Thompson fails you, I hope you can obtain the young woman of whom you speak as likely to answer temporarily.

Respectfully & very Sincerely,
Yours in the Lord's Service
J. O. Means

Mrs Martha R. Morris.

March 26. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother. –

I have this day rec'd yrs of March 14th & am glad to know that the missing letters of Jany 27 have reached you. Two copies of one of these letters are on the way to you.

Without waiting for the fuller letter about the financial estimates which you propose to send, I write at once in view of what you say about your brother Henry. You say "the relief proposed fails to do what was desired – to secure such help for him this winter .. that he might try the medicine of rest... The winter is now gone, & the opportunity with it... And it was not quite fair to Henry to make the grant conditioned on his leaving when it was only proposed as a means to secure his more efficient help for a longer time to come." – You add, "he is doing full work & will continue to do so till he resigns."

1. Has it not escaped your memory that your request in favor of your brother Henry was not for the year 1881, but for 1880? There is no item in the estimates for 1881 for additional help

for him, as you will see if you refer to your communications. It is in the readjustment you desired of the grants for 1880 that this request is made. In your explanation you stated that you had "hired some help along to make it easier for him". The Com. of course understood that the grant was to cover expenses incurred, or to be incurred, in 1880, & so made it.

2. The Miſsion estimates for 1881 for Santee agency includes this item: "Salary of H. M. Riggs, Steward $800." Subsequently, when the Com. learned the condition of your brother's health, this item was allowed to stand, as it was intended that an appointment should be made of a miſsionary to discharge these other duties as soon as a suitable person could be found: & this amount might be needed.

Dr Clark wrote to you, as I find, Dec. 27. 1880, "The statements you have made in reference to your brother Henry's health have led us to feel that it is not desirable that he should be formally connected with the miſsion as a miſsionary, & it may be better for him to for him, as you will see if you refer to your communications. It is in the readjustment you desired of the grants for 1880 that this request is made. In your explanation you stated that you had "tried some help along to make it easier for him". The Com. of course understood that the grant was to cover expenses incurred, or to be incurred, in 1880, & so made it.

2. The Mission estimates for 1881 for Santee agency include this item: "Salary of H. M. Riggs, Steward $800." Subsequently, when the Com. learned the condition of your brother's health, this item was allowed to stand, as it was intended that an appointment should be made of a missionary to discharge these other duties as soon as a suitable person could be found: & this amount might be needed.

Dr Clark wrote to you, as I find, Dec. 27 1880. "The statements you have made in reference to your brother Henry's health have led us to feel that it is not desirable that he should be formally connected with the mission as a missionary, & it may be better for him to relieve, the [illegible] & more hopeful work retire from his present Mission Charge as soon as practicable."

I understand that the appointment of your brother, which had been before the Prud. Com., was not consummated, because of ~~the statements~~ about his weakness in the knees, &c. &c.; & that the action taken instead was as Dr Clark writes. He had been previously employed by the Mission as Steward, I understand, & was not under any formal appointment of the Prudential Committee.

All sympathize deeply with him in his disability, which it is hoped may not so seriously interfere with such more private engagements as he may find.

May the Lord provide, & very speedily, a good man to take these burdens from your shoulders, & to assist otherwise in the general missionary work among the Indians.

The movements to fasten public interest upon the work at Hampton & Carlisle indicate that our own Christian public need to be enlightened as to what I humbly believe, the greater & more hopeful work for the Indians by our missions.

But I will not speak of this now. I have written at once as I am sure you will be anxious to have some word about your brother's position.

With continued & most earnest prayers for you all, personally, or as united in your toils, & for God's blessing upon the Indians, that they may be converted to Christ,

Very sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

March 30 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother—

I received yesterday the request of the mission forwarded by you that the sum of Fifty dollars $50.– given by the Woman's Cong'l Branch of the Woman's Board to procure mattrasses for the "Bird's Nest Cottage" might be appropriated by the Bird Com. to that object.

The Committee at once granted the request.

As I write there sit by me Mr & Mrs Walter, who are going to the Bihé Mission, West Central Africa. – We have a farewell meeting in Pilgrim Hall tonight in view of the departure of these missionaries, seven of them going

[illegible] Miss Cath- [illegible] for [illegible] to Mis- [illegible] now. [illegible] was [illegible] but [illegible] we hope [illegible] the [illegible] in heart [illegible] lies [illegible]

[illegible] J. O. Means.

March 30 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother.-

I received yesterday the request of the mission forwarded by you, that the sum of Fifty dollars $50.-, given by the Auburn Conference Branch of the Woman's Board to procure mattresses for the "Bird's Nest Cottage" might be appropriated by the Prud. Com. to that object.

The Committee at once granted the request.

As I write there sit by me Mr & Mrs Walter, who are going to the Bihé mission, West Central Africa.- We have a farewell meeting in Pilgrim Hall this aft. in view of the departure of twelve missionaries, seven of them going out for the first time.- Miss Cathcart, who had been proposed for the Sisseton agency, goes to Micronesia with Mrs Snow.

Dr Alden is very ill, was threatened with brain fever, but the crisis is now passed, we hope. He must be absent from the rooms for some months.

I hope you continue in health & strength.

With kind regards to Mrs Riggs & the children,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

April 13 81

My dear General

I notice by the newspapers that Sec'y Kirkwood is already moving in the matter of Indian Education, proposing to expend more money in this direction, opening new Schools away from the Indian reservations. Is there any movement in this direction? If more money is to be expended, is it not desirable that something should be urged with reference to enlarging the educational work where the tribes are living, & in their homes, where of course the great amount of teaching must be done?

While everybody rejoices at the instruction given at Hampton

& Carlisle, I suppose no one imagines it practicable or wise to transport Indians far off & support them in places remote from their homes, to give them an education, on any large scale.

Is this contemplated? Is it supposed the work for the Indians, the substance of it, can be accomplished by schools in the East & South?

Please write me what you suppose the expectations of the gentlemen in the Department are.

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Genl E. Whittlesey
Washington

April 15

My dear Mrs Morris:

Your note with the vouchers in due order came yesterday. I have not yet rec'd the vouchers from Santee agency. The irregularities & delays of the mails, owing to the severe storms, have been unprecedented. Probably delays in hearing from you, on this account, lost us Miss Cathcart. She was ready to go to the Dakota's, & this ~~to [illegible]~~ might have been her destination, but for the long season which elapsed before we could say definitely whether she was needed by you. However, the work is one & this known, is [illegible] the Indians [illegible] one must be [illegible] for you. To do is [illegible] one [illegible] one for a year [illegible] necessary, if more, to call in [illegible] [illegible] difficulty [illegible] the fact that [illegible] applying, you have only intended to stay a short time. Let us find a good woman who will make this her work; learn the language; & labor with you a steady & the place, where she is most needed. Is it possible & desirable to attempt more than you can do with your present force in the way of teaching? Can the school & work be enlarged, & to what extent? Are there to be decidedly more pupils than you now are having? If there is the opportunity of enlarging the whole educational movement on Sisseton, why should it not be attempted? The government might be prevailed upon to do much more. Instead of taking children East, it would seem that the best thing is to provide instruction before we could say definitely whether she was needed by you. However, the work is one & Mrs Snow is rejoiced to have her in the Micronesian field. Some one must be procured for you. It does not seem wise to engage one temporarily — or rather, to engage one for a year or two. It may be necessary, of course, to aid in keeping to fill a gap temporarily. But the difficulty, I judge, has come from the fact that those who have been assisting you have only intended to stay a short time. Let us find a good woman who will make this her work; learn the language; & labor with you or at any other place, where she is most needed.

Is it possible & desirable to attempt more than you can do with your present force in the way of teaching? Can the school work be enlarged, & to what extent? Are there to be obtained many more pupils than you now are having? If there is a fair opportunity of enlarging the whole educational movement at Sisseton, why should it not be attempted? The government might be prevailed upon to do much more. Instead of taking children East, it would seem that the best thing is to provide instruction for them where they live, & must live afterwards. — Please write me, in full, 1st What is now done & attempted, all about the work at present. 2d What you think may be done & ought to be done for enlargement. — Speak very freely. Something may come of it: if nothing does, no harm will be done, & I shall greatly enjoy knowing just what your views & wishes are. The winter has indeed been very severe. — Our dear Dr Alden has been very sick for a month: for a week past we greatly feared he was to be taken away. The symptoms are less discouraging for a day or two past & we begin to hope. Your Aunt is well. A Postal card from J. T. Barthold speaks of Mrs Hale as proposing to go to Ohio for her health.

With best wishes, Respectfully & very truly yours, J. Orne

Mrs M. R. Norris.

April 19 81

Mr H. J. King:

April 15 81

Rev. [illegible] Riggs

[illegible]

I read [illegible] touches [illegible] for the [illegible] 31 [illegible] then [illegible] How [illegible] in at [illegible] in the [illegible] schools [illegible] is [illegible] while [illegible] is done [illegible] education [illegible] ought to be carried on most economically & successfully where you & other missionaries are. We ought not to have the brightest and hopeful children taken out of their useful [illegible]

[illegible] cultivation. This seems the [illegible] ample preparation at Santee [illegible] practical work, so [illegible] are concerned [illegible] may skilled [illegible] then to be [illegible] What more is [illegible] providing his [illegible] Normal School? [illegible] you [illegible] can [illegible] school [illegible] be justified [illegible] appeal for government money; for this we must show more [illegible] the certain possibility of more teaching. How is the Robbins going?

Very truly yours,

J. Orne

[illegible]

April 15' 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs: My dear brother.

I rec'd yesterday from Mrs Morris vouchers for the 5 Sisseton Agency Scholars, for the two quarters ending March 31st which [illegible] I shall send them to Washington at once.

How is the educational work going on at Santee? How many scholars in the various schools? What prospect is there of a larger number of scholars? While of course we are glad of what is done at Carlisle & elsewhere, the education of the Indians ought to be carried on most economically & successfully where you & other missionaries are. We ought not to have the brightest and most hopeful children taken out of these reservations & brought eastward. There seems to be an ample preparation at Santee for a great educational work so far as buildings &c. are concerned. The organization, & many skilled teachers are there. Are there to be enough pupils? What more is necessary as to providing instruction for a thorough normal school? Are there now in training young Indians, men & women, who can & propose to take charge of Indian Schools?

We should like to be justified in making a strong appeal for more government money: for this we must show more pupils or the certain possibility of more teaching. How is Mr Robbins doing?

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means

Please write fully on these matters.

April 19 81

Mr R. J. King:

My dear Sir: - Your letter of April 14, rec'd [illegible]

We want now a good, devoted [illegible]

April 19 81

Mr H. J. King:

My dear Sir: – Your letter of April 14, to Secy Clark, has been received. – We thank you for the information you communicate & the interest you manifest in Indian Missions. – There are no Agencies to which our Board makes nominations, so that we can do nothing in the special direction about which you write. The Am. Missy Associations nominates to several Agencies: we have held aloof from this & have no relation of this kind to the govt. Our mission work, however, among the Indians dates far back & has been & still continues on a large scale. We expended last year more than $20.000 on our Indian Missions.

We want now a good, devoted man to go as missionary to the Santee Agency, to assist Rev. A. L. Riggs: one who can look after outside matters a good deal & allow Mr Riggs to give more of his time to instruction. Whoever goes of course will go on a missionary scale of expenditures & compensation, which you well know is not that of an Indian Agent.

Respectfully & very truly yours

J. O. Means.

Secy Am. Board.

May 3 81

Rev. C. L. Hall:

My dear brother

We hear indirectly of the death of Mrs Hall but have no particulars. We have waited for some confirmation of the report. But indeed so, ~~that~~ your wife has been taken from you? Please give us such particulars as you may be able to. You need not be assured of the very tender sympathy felt for you & yours. May the Lord guide & uphold you in all the way in which He is leading you.

Respectfully & very truly yours
J. O. Means
Secy Am. Board

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are on the way

Rev. A. L. Riggs

May 4, 1881

My dear Brother

In a letter written by you Jany 18th Recd by me [illegible] you asked a [illegible] a missionary teacher [illegible] & this [illegible]. I replied Jany 27 making inquiries more specific & have been [illegible] the answer every week. Will you please refer to my letter of Jany 27th & answer the questions there asked. [illegible] March 16 I wrote you [illegible] received a letter from you [illegible] March 26th you wrote about [illegible] & replied the same day [illegible]. I have not heard [illegible] Feb 7 I wrote to you again [illegible]. There have [illegible] the last was [illegible] M. S. govt [illegible] teachers have been [illegible] a long time. We wait for them from [illegible] to the Department. Will [illegible] have these forwarded at once, a [illegible] if they

May 4. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother.–

In a letter written by you Jany 18th. Recd by me 24th, you asked for a missionary teacher for Standing Bear & his Poncas. I replied Jany 27th, making inquiries more specific, & have been expecting an answer every week. Will you please recur to my letter of Jany 27th & answer the questions then asked?

March 16th I wrote you, which letter crossed a letter from you dated March 14th, recd here March 26th. You wrote about your brother Henry: & I replied the same day the letter came in full. I have not heard from you since. March 30th I wrote to you again: & April 15th. These have not been acknowledged by you. The last was with regard to the vouchers for the U. S. govt for the Schools at Santee. The Inspector's vouchers have been here a long time: we wait for those from Santee, to send all together to the Department. Will you please have these forwarded at once, & let me know if they are on the way.

In the Word Carrier for April is a statement that Mr T. M. Sinclair of Cedar Rapids "~~Iowa~~ said he would be glad to put $500. into our mission work among the Dakotas. He has more than redeemed his promise". Was this given through the Presbyterian Board? We suppose so, as our treasurer has no knowledge of it as he necessarily must, of course, if it had been for our Indian work. Mr Ward has asked me about it, & I shall be glad to answer him. I presume it went to the Presbyterian Board.

We sympathize with you in the embarrassments occasioned by the floods of this winter & spring. Can you not give us ~~some~~ interesting particulars of the work, the schools & the religious condition of the Indians? Our intelligence is very meagre: we want it for the sake of sustaining the interest of the Christian people in the work our missionaries are doing among the Indians. I have been writing

ith great interest an account of the Expedi-
tion by your brother Thomas, last winter, of
which he wrote me he would send shortly
full narrative.

We mourn with Mr Hall over the death
of his beloved wife. May the Lord sustain &
comfort him!

Please give my regards to Mrs Riggs, & the
ladies in the Home & Nest, & to Mr Robbins.
I hope all are cheery & prosperous. Remember
me kindly to your brother Henry & wife when
you write to them.

Dr Alden has been very ill, & is still
very weak & is not likely to be about his
work for a very long time. We were greatly
alarmed for some weeks lest he should
not recover.

With best wishes, very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

May 11. 1881

Miss Ella L. Ward
+ Miss Sophronia B. Pike:

My dear Ladies:-

I address you together as you are so closely associated in the work at Fort Berthold & are now both feeling the great bereavement which has fallen upon your mission & household. The death of Mrs Hall was a great shock to us in Boston. A word from Mr Hall on a Postal Card to our Treasurer some time ago incidentally spoke of her as not well. Our first intelligence of the sad event of death was in the columns of the newspapers. We grieve with you, most deeply, & with Mr Hall. It must make a great gap in your circle. Besides all the pain of parting with her, there comes now, I suppose, the necessity of making some new arrangements about your place of abode. We have not heard from Mr Hall ~~as to what~~ may seem to him the best plan for his own stricken household. We shall hear when he recovers from the stunning blow.

For you two ladies, unless you can obtain suitable board in some good family, the next best thing & perhaps now the only thing would seem to be to go to housekeeping. That will involve some additional expense, but the expense is a necessary one & must be incurred. If you can obtain suitable accommodations please do so, & a grant will no doubt be made to cover such expense as is necessary. Take care to live on hearty, nourishing food, & keep your physical systems in good condition to meet the strain that comes from your special exposures & special labors. There is danger that some missionaries forget how dependent for successful labors they are upon that vigor of health which can be sustained only by careful attention to the quality & quantity of diet, & to recreation. You cannot afford to be sick, nor to be weak & "run down", & the Board cannot afford to allow you to be, if it can be prevented.

This is my first letter to you, & I wish it need not be so sad ~~one~~ letter. God's providence seems to us very strange, in the blighting of such hopes & quenching of such a life. The consolation is, that He sees farther, knows better, loves more tenderly than we do.

How is your work, how has it been going on this winter? Please give me full particulars, how you are, what you are doing, & how matters look for the mission.

As the correspondence with the Dakota Mission has been devolved upon me, I am writing this, instead of Dr Clark's writing as I am sure he would more tenderly.

May the Lord keep you in His most holy keeping.

Respectfully & very truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

[illegible] Pike, & that of [illegible] suitable [illegible] they yet [illegible] they necessarily [illegible] additional expense [illegible] would be [illegible] of their own [illegible] & make the [illegible] circum: [illegible] of the [illegible] of you & your friends [illegible] yours.
[illegible] Means.

May 11

Rev. C. L. Hall.

My dear Bro:

After writing you on [illegible] last about the settling of the [illegible] death of your wife was rec'd by Dr Clark giving the particulars.

We are in deep & tender sympathy with you. The stroke seems overwhelming. Why He has allowed this, no one can say. He gives no account of any of His matters. But what we know not now we shall know hereafter. May the consolations of His Spirit sustain you.

Probably you have not been able yet to see what arrangements you can make with regard to your household. I have just

May 11

Rev. C. L. Hall.

My dear brother.

After writing you on the 3d inst. about the intelligence of the death of your wife, your letter was rec'd by Mr Wait giving the particulars.

We are in deep & tender sympathy with you. The stroke seems overwhelming. Why He has allowed this, no one can say: He giveth no account of any of His matters. ~~But that~~ we know not now we shall know hereafter. May the consolations of his Spirit sustain you.

Probably you have not been able yet to see what arrangements you can make with regard to your household. I have just written to Misses Wait & Pike, & have suggested to them ~~that~~ if they cannot procure suitable board in some family, they get the best accomodations they can & keep house. This necessarily will involve additional expense & trouble. But they must be very careful now of their own health & comfort & make the best arrangements the circumstances admit of.

Again assuring you of the prayerful remembrance of you & your stricken family by your friends here,

I am, Very sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

May 12   1

My dear General Whittlesey:-

The Lord will reward you. I am sure, for your service to him through the Am. Board..

I inclose & ask you to be kind enough to present to the department vouchers for the mission school at Santee Agency, duplicates, for the terms ending Sept. 30. 1880. Dec. 31. 1880, & March 31. 1881.: for the same at Sisseton Agency, for the terms ending Dec. 31. 1880 & March 31. 1881. There was no school at Sisseton last summer.

We are deficient in some important Indian Dep. documents. If the missing reports can be had, they will be of great service. - The Report of the Indian Commissioner for 1855, we have, for 1870. 1871. 1872. 1873. 1875. 1878. 1879.: we lack reports for 1856. 1857. 1858. 1859. 1860. 1861. 1862. 1863. 1864. 1865. 1866. 1867. 1868. 1869. - 1874. - 1876. 1877.

Not having the report for 1869, we lack of course the 1st report of the Board of Ind. Com., which is bound up with the other report for 1869. - We also lack the report of the Board of Ind. Com. for 1873, which is the 5th report I believe.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

May 13.

My dear Miss Dyck,

Your very satisfactory letter March 28th reached us only last week! I was determined that there was no interruption of railway communication, by which our mails had been detained. That the detention was so great, however, surprised me. Since the snow blocked up the roads the floods have washed them away: but now, at length, we trust they are abated, so that there need be no delays hereafter.

Your impression of Miss Faxon, as to fitness for the position at Santee, confirms the judgment we had already formed from other information:

May 13 1

My dear Miss Webb:

Your very satisfactory letter dated March 28th reached us only last week! I was aware that there was interruption of railway communication by which our mails had been detained. That the detention was so great, however, surprised me. Since the snow blocked up the roads the floods have washed them away: but now, at length, we trust they are abated, so that there need be no delays hereafter.

Your impression of Miss Fargon, as to fitness for the position at Santee, confirms the judgment we had already formed from other information: so that I had made no communication to her, & of course shall make none.

We want the "right woman" for this place [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible] many [illegible] daughter [illegible] the ladies [illegible] make it [illegible] Mother [illegible] not this [illegible] another [illegible] be [illegible]

Mr Riggs has [illegible] me — [illegible] I have just received [illegible] a letter which may make us pause, as it may be not best to procure a matron for your Home, without making an arrangement to meet a similar need at the Bird Nest.

It is gratifying to have some particulars of your work. How many scholars have you now, & how many have you had this winter? & how have they been stopping? Have you been able to do anything in visiting the homes of the Indians in the neighborhood? Do you [illegible] a day for fresh [illegible] of [illegible]? Do your [illegible] ladies & gentlemen have [illegible] social meetings for conversation & interchange of sympathies?

Please give my special regards to Miss Paddock, & to the ladies in the other houses,

& believe me, very sincerely
Your friend & fellow worker,
J. O. Means

Miss Susan Webb.

How do you get on in learning the language?

so that I had made no communication to her, & of course shall make none.

We want the "right woman" for this place. There is a lady as to whom I have been making inquiries: suitable she seems, in many respects; but a young daughter of 10 or 12 yrs of age—the lady is a widow—may make it incompatible for the mother to go to Santee. If not this, then let us hope another will be found.

Mr Riggs has just written me—or rather, I have just received from him—a letter which may make us pause; as it may be not best to procure a matron for your Home, without making an arrangement to meet a similar need at the Bird Nest.

It is gratifying to have some particulars of your work. How many scholars have you now, & how many have you had this winter? What have they been studying? Have you been able to do anything in visiting the homes of the Indians in the neighborhood? Are you getting out every day for fresh air & change of scene? Do you mission ladies & gentlemen have any social meetings for relaxation & for interchange of sympathies?

Please give my special regards to Miss Paddock, & to the ladies in the other houses.

Believe me, very sincerely
Your friend & fellow worker,
J. O. Means

Miss Susan Webb
How do you get on in learning the language?

May 18.

Rev. S. R. Riggs, D.D.
Beloit, Wis.

My dear Dr. Riggs:

A letter from you dated Mar. 29th was rec'd in due time. The matter of providing for a temporary teacher at Sisseton Agency was brought before the Prudential Committee yesterday, and action was taken in accordance with your wishes. The reasons which you give, and similar reasons given by Mrs. Morris, for having a temporary teacher there, make it very evident that the service of such an one is indispensable. The salary was not provided for in the annual appropriation, for the reason that was given, that the Prudential Committee wished first to secure a permanent teacher to fill the position. Now, as matters are, they have restored the appropriation recently asked for by the mission, of $300. for a teacher at Sisseton for the current year. It is of course hoped and expected that no more of this amount will be expended than is absolutely necessary

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for the temporary supplies, and it is hoped that as soon as a suitable person can be found, one will be appointed permanently for this situation.

Respectfully and very truly yours,

J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

May 17, 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs.

My dear brother:

[illegible] mail came from you May 10th: letters of April 1, April 18 & 28. As that of April 1 requested additional appropriations, it was, as usual, laid before the Prudential Committee. They have through a Sub-Committee given careful consideration to the various matters, & after a long session the Prudential Committee have taken action this week & I now write to you in accordance therewith.

1. "Future additions to the Mission ~~Station~~ force at the Santee Station." The Committee propose to appoint, as soon as a suitable man can be secured, another male missionary, & assign to him the care & charge of all the temporalities at the Station, & have you relieved of all this, that your more valuable services may be given exclusively to the religious & educational work which no one can do but you.

Who is "Mr Vanderbilt" of whom you speak? Will you please put me in communication with him, or with any one else, for this position?

Meanwhile, as somebody must be doing that

1

May 19. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs:

My dear brother:

A large mail came from you May 10th: letters of April 1. April 18 & 28. As that of April 1. requested additional appropriations, it was, as usual, laid before the Prudential Committee. They have through a Sub-Committee given careful consideration to the various matters, ~~after~~ a long report the Prudential Committee have taken action this week, & I now write to you in accordance therewith.

1. "Future additions to the Mission ~~Station~~ force at the Santee Station." The Committee propose to appoint, as soon as a suitable man can be secured, another male missionary, & assign to him the care & charge of all the temporalities at the Station, & have you relieved of all this, that your more valuable services may be given exclusively to the religious & educational work which no one can do but you. —

Who is "Mr Vanderbilt" of whom you speak? Will you please put me in communication with him, or with any one else, for this position?

Meanwhile, as somebody must be doing that

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2

it now comes, is very practical. Before the Prudential Com. take it up for formal consideration, they wish to have your Dakota Mission also give it full discussion. Keeping in mind what the government of the U.S. is doing, & what is undertaken at Carlisle, & by some religious bodies. How far ought we, as a Mission engaged primarily in religious work, with a view to spiritual results, to undertake industrial training? Will not the government do this better? Can we compete, & should we try to compete, with others in this line? ~~The~~ A vote was passed that this question "in all its bearings" be taken up at the next Annual Meeting of the [Dakota] Mission, & that the result of their deliberations be communicated to the Prudential Committee."

Please lay this before the Mission, as their Secretary, at the next annual meeting.

4. "The Shoeshop". 'Tis gratifying that you speak of the experiment as a perfect success: & ~~that~~ the man in charge is competent, faithful, & exemplary. What shall be done finally, the Prud. Com. will determine when the whole question of Industrial Education is considered. As six months have already elapsed since the shoemaker was hired, the Com. voted an

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Steward-work for which you had previously employed your brother Henry. Mr Robbins might be put in charge of the Young Ladies' Hall, (as you intimated would be done) & some one be employed temporarily as Steward at a rate not exceeding $550. per annum, as was done up to 1880.

2. "The how & where to board the teachers," is indeed not an easy matter to arrange. When I was with you it was evident to me ~~that~~ the ladies were doing too much housework, with all their other duties. Mrs Morris, at Sisseton, seems to obtain Indian women to do housework, to some extent. I wondered your wife had not broken down long ago, & hoped she would find relief in some way. The ladies in the Home, I hoped, would get relief. For one thing, it seemed to me desirable at least to procure a good motherly woman, to superintend the cooking &c. & break in the Indian girls to that sort of work, & give Miss Webb & her associates more time for teaching. What you say on this subject shall receive careful consideration: I will not say more upon it now.

3. "In regard to the proper place of Industrial Education," what you say is of the greatest moment. The question, in the shape in which

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appropriation of $300. for six months from April 1. which will fill out the year. They do not think best to make any appropriation for a longer period than till Sept. 30th.

5. "Last Summer's Building work." The Boys Cottage, it seems, is what when the appropriation was made was called A Dwelling House for a new Missionary. The Com. are surprised that so large additional appropriations are asked for the various buildings. When the estimates were sent in, it was understood that they completed the buildings, & were voted accordingly. Sept. 9. 1879. You wrote, in asking an appropriation for another wing of the School House: "if built in connection with the other wing three hundred dollars would put up the second wing." The Com. understood this to mean that $300. was enough: that they were asked to grant it in the interest of economy, & they did so. Now it is reported as costing the same as the first wing.

The Prud. Com. voted "to postpone for the present all action in regard to these appropriations," except that for six months pay of the shoemaker: & to "request Mr Riggs to furnish the Prudential Committee with accounts showing the

4

appropriation of $300. for six months from April 1. which will fill out the year. They do not think best to make any appropriation for a longer period than till Sept. 30th

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The Pru. Com. voted "to postpone for the present all action in regard to these appropriations," except that for six months pay of the shoemaker: & to "request Mr Riggs to furnish the Prudential Committee with accounts showing the

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amount expended upon each building at the Santee Agency, for which the additional appropriations are requested, & for furnishing the same: that these accounts shall be minute & particular in regard to items, & that vouchers be sent for all of them. This implies no want of confidence in Mr Riggs but is a matter of necessity for us as respects all appropriations. And we must again press upon our missionaries the importance of great care in estimating expenses for building & other purposes.

The Com. call attention to the fact that you mention that "the late Mrs. W. Sinclair of Cedar Rapids made a gift of $200 to the building fund, which has been expended in the unfinished sleeping rooms of the Young Men's Hall." The fact that such a gift or gifts had been made should have been communicated to the Board, & it should have been expended only under the sanction of the Prud. Com.. Mr Riggs should now inform us how much money was received, how it was expended, & whether he consulted the other members of the mission before using it.

We are glad to learn that the Santees have not

6

suffered any more from the floods. What you say of the religious interest is full of encouragement.

I thank you for your vouchers for the three quarters of the school year. I have forwarded all to Washington in due order. I am sorry to find Miss Webb's health breaking down, & hope a rest will restore her. Mr Robbins's Rhode Island friends have been disturbed lest he was sick, letters have been so infrequent from him of late. May the Lord uphold & strengthen you all for the great work in which you are engaged. In all discouragements & in all times of weariness, it is well to remember that the Lord is with his servants in such endeavors as you are making to bring souls to Him.

With special regards to Mrs Riggs & the children whose photographs we love to look at in our house.

Very truly yours

J. O. Means.

Dr Clark is visiting the Western Conferences.
Dr Alden is still very feeble but is recovering.

May 25. 1.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother:

Your two letters dated May 17th have come to hand. I hasten to reply to one of them, as it needs immediate attention, namely, that in which you speak of the desirableness of securing the aid of Miss Paddock's sister during the absence of Miss Webb. The matter has been laid before the Prudential Committee, and it is judged wise to employ Miss Paddock, and you are authorized to do so, at an expense not exceeding the $50 for which you asked and which are appropriated for this special service.

Please give my kind regards to Miss Paddock in the Home. We hope that Miss Webb will be thoroughly recruited and able to resume her work before long. I shall write you in a short time, as soon as matters can be attended to, with regard to the other points in your letter.

Very truly yours, J. O. Means.

May 28 .

Miss Pike
and Miss Ward. My dear ladies:

Your most pleasant & satisfactory letters, dated the 20th inst., have just reached me. You will allow me to answer them in a common letter, as there is nothing specially private in your own & nothing I should say to one of you that I should not say to both. But let me say, that I hope you will be very free & ready to write privately & ask or say anything you would like to speak about. I shall be most glad to write to you in return, as I may be able to.

I am very much interested in your matters of housekeeping. I am glad that you are arranging things so agreeably &, as it seems to me

or far away, so judiciously. You must be careful to keep your body comfort the mind as a part of your [illegible] lady [illegible] you can [illegible] more [illegible] more [illegible] & [illegible] Indians [illegible] duty is [illegible] action. [illegible] hands [illegible] with you [illegible]

What you say of [illegible] is very gratifying. No matter where the Indian boys are taught to Christ, with you or at Hampton or Carlisle. Yet I confess when I read that some of your best & most hopeful Indians were picked out & carried away Eastward, it seemed to me that it must be very [illegible] to your work. These [illegible] are the ones who would be most likely to be helpful [illegible] in your religious [illegible]. Those who [illegible] Eastward, [illegible] favorable surroundings [illegible] opportunities, ought to [illegible] those who are least [illegible] duties therefore [illegible] advantages. [illegible] not to have left [illegible] those whose ed- [illegible] most difficult

How much manual labor you shall do, in the house, will be decided by yourselves. You must however feed your minds as well as your bodies: recreati or far away, so judiciously. You must be careful to keep your bodily comfort in mind as a part of your duty to the Indians. A dyspeptic lady could not do them the best service. The more vigorous & healthy you can keep yourselves, the more cheerful & good humored, the more fresh & attractive, instructive & inspiring you will be to the Indians. So it is a very religious duty to heed diet, sleep, rest, recreation, & be as serviceable an instrument as possible in the Lord's hands for the work he is doing with you.

What you say of religious matters is very gratifying. No matter where the Indian boys are brought to Christ, with you or at Hampton or Carlisle. Yet I confess when I read that some of your best & most hopeful Indians were picked out & carried away Eastward, it seemed to me that it must be very prejudicial to your work. These picked Indians are the ones who would be most likely to be helpful in your school & in your religious work. You need them. Those who are taking Indians Eastward, to more favorable surroundings facilities, opportunities, ought to take the worst, those who are least likely to improve & who therefore need exceptional advantages. You ought not to have left in your care those whose education is most difficult.

How much manual labor you shall do, in the house, must be decided by yourselves. You must however feed your minds as well as your bodies: recreati

your minds, refresh your hearts.
Your time for reading must be
arranged. Something outside the mere
line of your work. You should indulge
in reading. It is very necessary to have
some mental stimulus, where such
exhausting duties devolve upon you.

A friend authorized me to dispose
of some copies of the revised New Test.;
& I will have a copy sent to each
of you; I have no doubt you will
be glad to have it.

Please give my regards to Mr
Hale. We feel very deep sympa-
thy for him. His is the great be-
reavement. May the Comforter
grant him His consolation!

Dr Clark is now in Chicago, & is
due in Iowa next week. Dr
Alden, who has been very low,
is slowly recovering.

Respectfully & very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Miss S. B. Pike &
Miss E. L. Ward. H. Berthold.

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be glad to know what your impressions
of the work are [illegible] June 1.
Mr. J. C. Robbins
[illegible] communi
[illegible] on the
[illegible] for you
[illegible] Instead,
[illegible] congregational
[illegible] of the Hermes.
[illegible] more general
[illegible] by a great many
[illegible] to the Indians.
[illegible] through
[illegible] to insert it
[illegible] room. I am
[illegible] time to prepare this
[illegible] a number
[illegible] point of writing
[illegible] for your letter giving
a full [illegible] daily work.
[illegible] able to find leisure from your
many engagements, I hope you will
write again. After longer trial I should

June 1. 1.

Mr. J. C. Robbins.
Santee Agency.
My dear brother;

Your letter & communication of May 18th was received on the 28th. I thank you particularly for your very interesting communication. Instead, however, of offering it to the Congregationalist, I offered it to the Editor of the Herald, where it will receive a much more general appreciation and be read by a great many more friends of the mission to the Indians. Our editor, Mr. Strong, has looked through it carefully and proposes to insert it as soon as he can find room. I am glad you have found time to prepare this last communication. For quite a number of weeks I have been on the point of writing to you to thank you for your letter giving a full account of your daily work. When you are able to find leisure from your many engagements, I hope you will write again. After longer trial I should be glad to know what your impressions of the work are, and how our methods for teaching and bringing to the Lord Jesus Christ the Indians in connection with our mission, strike you. One thing that we have desired has been to have more particulars and incidents with regard to the Indian work.

Through letters from Mr. Riggs I learn his very great appreciation of your work. He says very kind things with regard to the progress you are making both ~~with talking~~ in learning the language & in teaching. Please give him my special regards also to the young ladies who are associated with you.

I am very sorry that Miss Webb has been obliged to leave. I presume by this time she is back.

Mrs. Means desires to be remembered to you. Dr. Alden is gaining though in all probability he will not be able to resume his work in the Rooms this Summer. Remember me kindly to Mrs. Riggs and the children. Your good friends in Bristol keep up communication with you, I think. They are eager to know all you are doing.

With continued good wishes,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

your very tender note giving more particulars of your bereavement, and of the state in which you are left now at the mission. It seems to me the arrangements you are making are very judicious. I do not know that you could have made any better disposition of your families. I have written to Miss Pike and Miss Ward. Miss Ward, I hope will gain strength and be able to ~~[illegible]~~ do good work both in acquiring the language and in teaching. and I hope Miss Pike will find the number of her pupils increase, and her opportunity for labor enlarge as she may be able to gain more mastery over the language.

Perhaps you would find some consolation in coming East, and yet I think you have had the right idea in feeling that for the present you are more likely to gain

June 1. 1.

Rev. C. L. Hall,

Fort Berthold, D. T.

My dear brother,

May 28th I received your very tender note giving more particulars of your bereavement, and of the state in which you are left now at the mission. It seems to me the arrangements you are making are very judicious. I do not know ~~that~~ you could have made any better disposition of your families. I have written to Miss Pike and Miss Ward. Miss Ward, I hope will gain strength and be able to ~~resume~~ do the good work ~~both~~ in acquiring the language and in teaching. And I hope Miss Pike will find the number of her pupils increase, and her opportunity for labor enlarge as she may be able to gain more mastery over the language.

Perhaps you would find some consolation in coming East, and yet I think you have had the right idea in feeling that for the present you are more likely to gain est by throwing yourself into the work where you are. It would be inevitable that the fountain of tears would open more & more if you were visiting among Mrs. Hall's friends. Your presence among them I have no doubt will be very consolotary when you are able to visit them. By the Autumn perhaps some way will be seen in which it may be suitable for you to leave without exposing the ladies too much to danger among the Indians. A friend placed at my disposal a number of copies of the Revised Translation of the New Testament. I have forwarded a copy for you and for the ladies which you will please accept as from an unknown friend. I also forward a copy of Dr. Storrs' "Wycliffe Semi Millennial" Speech. Dr. Clarke is now far West, but not far enough to go up to Fort Berthold.

Dr. Alden is gaining in health and we hope he will resume his position in the early Autumn.

With kind regards to the ladies,

Respectfully & Very Truly Yours,

J. O. Means.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency

My Dear Brother:

I write this morning to say that the request made in your letter of last May 17th for an allowance for your son, Frank B. Riggs, was reached by the Prudential Committee yesterday. It was voted that an allowance of a hundred dollars ($100.00/100) a year be made to meet your request. The vote does not state when the year is to begin. It would naturally begin with the date of the vote, but if you desire to date back to some period, please let me know, and that can be arranged. About other matters of which you speak I shall answer in future letters.

Dr. Clarke is now absent on a tour in the West. Dr. Alden is gaining very fairly but will not be able resume labor for several months.

I am thankful that your children

ave recovered from the scarlet fever but
am grieved to learn that they have had
it, atall. It must have made much
labor for Mrs. Riggs. We sympathize with
you very tenderly in all this trouble.
I hope that she has adequate assistance in
her house work, to save her that particular
labor at least.

I have just ~~sent~~ received a note ~~to~~ from Mr. Robbins giving some account of your last annual meeting. His communication will appear shortly in the Herald.

With best wishes for your continued health and for a prosperous work this Spring.

Very Truly Yours,
J. O. Means.

June 3. 1.

Rev. Chas. L. Hall.
Fort Berthold, Dak.

My dear brother:

In my last letter to you I forgot to make the following request and I now do it. It is that you will be kind enough to forward as soon as possible a free and minute report of the religious and other movements of your station during the past year. I want to obtain as many particulars as possible to afford a just view of the state of our whole Indian mission field. I wish this in addition to the report which you have doubtless made to the Secretary of the Dakotah Mission to be incorporated in his annual report.

With renewed expressions of sympathy for you in your bereavement, and praying that the Lord may strengthen you as the days and nights pass over you,

Very Truly Yours,
J. O. Means.

June 3. 1.

Rev. Alfred L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Dak.

My dear brother;

You must not think because I am writing you so many letters — almost every day — that I am a man of so much leisure that I have nothing else to do but ~~seek~~ attempt correspondence with distant friends; but I meant to have stated in my letter of day before yesterday what I now say, that I wish very much to have full and minute particulars of life at the Santee Agency and work which has been done or attempted during the past year. You are, doubtless, preparing, perhaps have already completed, the annual report of the Dakota mission that I look for with great interest; but I should like a more minute account of the Santee Agency in addition to whatever may be contained in the annual report. I write to you about it, but if you delegate the task I hope it will prove a pleasure) to Mr. Robbins ~~or to~~ one^{re} of the ladies. You may save yourself some labor and it will accomplish the result which I desire.

I send you, by the kindness of a Christian brother who has furnished me with the means for this purpose, three copies of the Revised Translation of the New Testament, for yourself and co-laborers. also a copy of Dr. Storrs Speech at the Wycliffe Semi-Millennial Celebration.

Respectfully and Very Truly Yours.
J. O. Means.

[illegible] kind greetings to [illegible]
[illegible] Very Truly Yours,
J. O. Means.
[illegible] Sully, Dakotah.
[illegible] Brother.
[illegible] the kind [illegible] practicable [illegible] of [illegible] has [illegible] religious and [illegible] Please [illegible] as minutely as possible.

I ask [illegible] report which you have [illegible] to the Secretary of the Dakotah mission to be incorporated in his annual report. I am very desirous of getting as minute particulars as possible with regard to every station.

A friend has permitted me to send to some of our missionaries copies of the Revised Translation of the New Testament, and I send you two copies herewith, one for yourself and another for Miss Collins. I also send as I think you will enjoy it, a copy of Dr. Storrs Speech at the Wycliffe Semi-Millennial Celebration.

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs.
Fort Sully. Dakotah.

My dear brother:

Will you be kind enough to forward as soon as practicable a full report of the religious condition of your station and of the work which has been done in all directions, religious and educational, during the past year? Please go into particulars as minutely as possible. I ask for this as additional to the report which you have probably forwarded to the Secretary of the Dakotah mission to be incorporated in his annual report. I am very desirous of getting as minute particulars as possible with regard to every station.

A friend has permitted me to send to some of our missionaries copies of the Revised Translation of the New Testament, and I send you two copies herewith, one for yourself and another for Miss Collins. I also send as I think you will enjoy it. a copy of Dr. Storrs Speech at the Wycliffe Semi-Millennial Celebration.

With best wishes and kindly greetings to you all.

Very Truly Yours,
J. O. Means.

Mr Wyllys K. Morris,
Sisseton Agency

My dear brother:
Will you be kind enough to have prepared and forwarded from your station a report of a[ll] that has been attempted and accomp[lished] during the last year? Please go into p[retty] minute particulars touching the work done, the numbers of the schools and the kinds, and the number of the scholars and every thing that will be essential to a just view of the mission work of the station for the year past. I ask this in addition to whatever you may have reported to the Secretary for the general report of the Dakota mission for him to put into his annual report.

Please also give some little account of the various buildings and of any lands enclosed for the use of the mission.

I notice in the "Word Carrier" for May an acknowledgment of various sums of money received by you for the church at Good Will.

June 3.

Mr Wylys K. Morris,
Sisseton Agency. Dak.

My dear brother:
Will you be kind enough to have prepared and forwarded from your station a report of all that has been attempted and accomplished during the last year? Please go into pretty minute particulars touching the work done; the numbers of the schools and the kinds, and the number of the scholars and everything that will be essential to a just view of the mission work of the station for the year past. I ask this in addition to whatever you may have reported to the Secretary for the general report of the Dakota mission for him to put into his annual report.

Pleas also give some little account of the various buildings and of any lands enclosed for the use of the mission.

I notice in the "Word Carrier" for May an acknowledgement of various sums of money received by you for the church at Good Will.

Have these sums been received recently, or during this year? I find our Treasurer has not had any notice of such gifts, as is necessary, and he wishes to know what amounts to credit to these individuals, to be charged of course to the mission as your moneys received and expended. We have thought that perhaps these amounts had been received during a long time past and happened to be acknowledged just now.

I send you by the kindness of a Christian brother, who has furnished me with the means for this purpose, one copy of the Revised Edition of the New Testament.

With best wishes for you all

Very Truly Yours.

J. O. Means.

June 8. 1.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency, Neb.
My dear brother:

Your letter of May 30th was received June 6th. At the meeting of the Prudential Committee yesterday I communicated your suggestion, which I suppose you hardly meant to make a request, that an Auditing Committee from Boston or Chicago should visit the Santee Agency to look over your accounts and vouchers. That would be, of course, quite impracticable, and we do not see any necessity for any step of the kind. We have no question with regard to the fidelity with which you have discharged your trust; - we do not need a Committee of investigation or anything of that kind; - but in all our missions all expenditures are audited and vouchers are examined by some persons quite distinct from those who incur the expenditures. Here at Boston no purchase is made to the amount of half a dollar without a voucher being taken, and every item is carefully examined by a sub-Committee and passed upon before the Treasurer's accounts are approved. This is done every month. It is necessary, for an intelligent view of our financial matters, to be very careful with regard to all these points, and the Committee only desire the same method to be followed in your mission as elsewhere. There are no other members of your mission in a condition to examine and audit your accounts. If there had been several persons associated with you at Santee, the Committee would have designated some of them as a sub-Committee to audit accounts. I make these explanations that you may not suppose there is anything personal in the request which the Committee made, for an itemized account with vouchers for the expenditures on the several buildings for which you asked additional appropriations. Possibly it may take some time and involve some inconvenience for you to do what the Committee request, but it seems to them desirable, nevertheless, to have it done. They, therefore, wish that you would, by the assistance of Mr. Robbins or by others - perhaps some of the young men whom you have had in training, who ought to be capable of making copies and of adding figures - prepare your account and forward it with the vouchers to us at Boston.

// I thank you for what you say of Mr. Vanderbuilt. In Dr. Alden's absence, it has not been possible to ascertain with regard to persons with whom he has been in correspondence, and he has not been well enough for us to ask him personally about these matters.

I am very sorry that you are obliged to send such unfavorable a report with regard to Miss Webb's health. It is certainly very discouraging. Were you aware that she had been over-working? She ought to have had relief of some kind earlier. I only hope that the result will prove more favorable than now appears and that she will be able before a great while to resume her work. //

I asked with reference to Mr. Sinclair's gifts inasmuch as reference was made to them in the Word Carrier". Of course if it was proper to be reported there, there would be no objection to its being reported in the Missionary Herald. You know, of course, that it is absolutely necessary for the Prudential

Committee to be informed of all moneys that are given for expenditure at every mission station and how those moneys are expended. The Committee is obliged to judge, after full statements from the missionaries in charge, what is necessary and what, in view of other demands upon the finances of the Board, it is expedient to expend at any mission station; and if, after the Committee has made its appropriations, other funds are in any way secured and expended, it interferes with the plans of the Committee. Of course it is difficult on all occasions to carry out in full the rules of the Committee. Small gifts are made, and perhaps it seems needless to say anything to the Committee about them, but if you were where the Committee is, in a position to look over the whole ground, to see the whole work which is going on at all the mission stations, I am sure you would see that however it may seem to involve difficulty in special occasions here and there, the rule of the Committee that no private solicitations be made by missionaries for gifts for private purposes at their stations and that all gifts received be at once acknowledged at least to the Treasurer and Committee, if they are not made public, and that all expenditures at stations be under the supervision of the Committee:– that this rule, I say, is absolutely essential to the wise management of our mission work.

The last thing certainly which we desire is to tie down missionaries in whose judgment and character we have such confidence that we appoint them missionaries of the Board. We desire that as full freedom as is practicable with the whole management of mission affairs be given to individual missionaries. It is from no spirit of checking and restraining – much less of distrusting our missionaries – that the Committee take the action they are obliged to.– Perhaps I need not have said any of these things; but I have been afraid, from here and there a sentence in your letter, that you might think the Committee were not disposed to give you the confidence you deserve, or that they were disposed to restrain your movements needlessly.

You ask in regard to the new missionary whom we are endeavoring to procure to assist you at the Santee Agency. You ask "whether I am to be under him or he under me." I take this as a jocose question. Of course our missionaries all stand on an equality in a mission. He will neither be under nor over you or Mr Robbins, and you and Mr. Robbins will neither be over nor under him, or over or under each other. Ye are all brethren. We have no superintendent of missions. The missionaries and assistant missionaries have an equal voice in the management of all the affairs of the stations where they are working. No one of them has direction of any other. We understand that you all work harmoniously together, after full and free consultation; and if, in any question that arises there is difference of opinion, the majority decides;- and if a decision cannot be reached among the missionaries in the station, the Prudential Committee will decide for them.

Excuse me for saying these things, and I am half inclined to take them back; but inasmuch as you have asked the question, I will let this answer stand as it is.

I had a letter from your brother Thomas, dated May 31st, in which he says in his closing sentence, "I expect in a few days to start eastward and visit my boy Theodore in Bangor, as well as aid my father somewhat in his work at Beloit." Whether or not you will see him at the Santee Agency I do not know. He seems to have suffered very seriously – it is the first intelligence we have had of it – from snow-blindness all winter. I am afraid it has been much more serious than his present letter represents it. I am very sorry for it. I hope now he will be in better health. He says he thinks his trouble is entirely over now.

With kind remembrances to Mrs. Riggs and the children,

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

June 15, '1.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother:

I rec'd yours of June 6th on the 13th. I am sorry that Miss Webb has not gained sufficiently to justify her remaining through the season's school. I shall be glad to see her when she comes this way, and shall learn many things about the winter's work. I thank you for enclosing Mr. King's letter to you. I will say privately that when he wrote to me I did not encourage him, in view of his not being a minister — and we wanted an ordained minister for this work — but also because of his age and the likelihood that he would not fit into such a position. I made such statements to him as I supposed would prevent him from pursuing the matter; but he seems very desirous to engage in the work. The testimonials which he has forwarded are of the very highest character as to his capability, honesty and efficiency and as to his Christian character generally. He seems very anxious to assist in this work. What will be done by the Prudential Committee, to whom his papers will now be referred at his special request though I had said to him that it did not seem to me worth while to refer them - I cannot say. But now, in view of what seems to be your state of health, it may be there is something providential in his offer. Dr. Clark returns from Oberlin where a number of persons spoke to him of Mr. King in the very highest terms.

I am sorry that you are in a condition of health which clouds your enjoyment. I have no fear that your "usefulness is at an end." I think what you need is relief in the many cares which you have been bearing. If you "have lost spring and ambition and the wheels of life seem going slower and slower," it is very evident that the reason is that you are worn down. May it not be that a kindly, genial, Christian man may come in and take upon himself all the out-door, vexing, material interests which you have been carrying, and that you may devote yourself more exclusively to teaching and such religious work as you are the best fitted of all to do among the Indians there, and so your own tone of physical and intellectual and spiritual health be recovered? I have great sympathy with you in your over weariness. May the Lord lift you up out of it! We shall be glad to do anything we can towards it.

With kind regards to Mrs. Riggs.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

June 16. – This was not despatched yesterday, & this morning's mail brings yrs of June 10. – I am deeply interested in Mr Hale's letter, which I return as you desire. By all means, scholars should be encouraged to come from Ft B. & all the other stations to Santee Agency. That's just what we want, for them & for the whole work. "How meet the expense?" – Your suggestion seems to me proper, at present, until other arrangements can perhaps be made. Let the expense of bringing them be made as little as practicable & then let it be considered as provided for in the grant of the government. There is no impropriety in that. When does the school year end, & when the new one begin? Your vacation is near at hand. What is done in the vacation of the school? I ask because I am ignorant.

I will keep in mind what you say about the young lady who may be had, if necessary, for some assistance.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

July 18 1

Dr. W. K. Morris. Sisseton Agency.

My dear brother. I acknowledge the receipt of a gratifying letter from Mrs Morris, dated May 6. & your annual report, June 27th. I thank you both for so many particulars about the School. Now, a lady was introduced to me a few days since, who is ready to go to Sisseton Agency as assist. Supt, & teach. If any arrangements have been made so that a teacher is not needed, of course I shall not encourage this lady. Please write me on receipt of this, & also say when, if she is needed, she should reach you.

Mrs Morris presentation of the need of building for perhaps 20 girls I am interested in & give consideration. If you are clear that this building ought to be provided, lay the matter before your Mission: if they approve it, after obtaining estimates within which the building can be built & furnished & be ready for occupancy, make the regular request for an appropriation, & present it to the Prud. Com. & ask their favorable consideration of the same. I do not know that this building can be provided, but, if needed, an endeavor can be made toward it.

I had a short call from Rev. Thos. Riggs when he was eastward & regretted that I could not see more of him.

May the Lord bless you abundantly in your home & in your work.

Very truly, Yours in the Lord,
J. O. Means.

My dear Dr. Riggs:

We received July 11th your letter of July 5, in which you speak of the literary labors in which you have been engaged, and of further service which gentlemen connected with the Smithsonian Institute and the U. S. Government desire you to render, in the general interest of Indian philology and ethnology, to which you have already made such valuable contributions. You say that "as what is in contemplation" will take me East some months, I should not think it the right thing for me to do, without asking and receiving the approval of the Committee".

The Committee have given your letter a careful consideration. As they are held to a strict accountability by their constituency of the churches, for the manner in which the Indian and all other missions are managed, and the objects for which money is expended, they must of course be scrupulously careful that the Gifts entrusted to them for propagating the Gospel be devoted to that specific purpose as directly and positively as possible.

It is not easy on the part of missionaries to draw the line between the labor which must be regarded as purely scientific & literary, and that which is so absolutely necessary & so directly helpful to the spiritual improvement of the Indians, that it is unquestionably legitimate. Incidentally & as side occupation for chance hours of course a missionary can and will do a great deal of which is rather literary, ethnological, or historical, than proper missionary work. To give solid time to this however, and make it a considerable part of one's occupation, seems quite another matter. In the earlier stages of the Dakota Mission a dictionary and grammar were indispensible and the missionary must make them. This want has been now measurably supplied. The work to which you are asked to give your valuable time and strength seems rather scientific than religious, of great importance, indeed, but gram for scholars and antiquaries and history for the Indians themselves or their pastors and teachers. It will necessitate, as you suggest, your withdrawal from the mission field proper, and your residence for a prolonged period away in Beloit, and Washington, & elsewhere, which, of course, must be greatly detrimental to the mission work; while it will be almost inevitable that it absorb your thoughts & feelings during your absence from the Indian communities.

Inasmuch as the Prud. Comm., considering the condition in which our Indian missions now are, does not feel justified in encouraging those who are supported by missionary offerings to devote their time and energy to undertakings of this nature, is it not perfectly feasible to provide for the expenses which will be involved outside of the Board? When our missionaries have been engaged in the translation of the Bible, which is in the direct line of their appropriate labors, the Bible Society has made grants to provide for their salary and other expenses; and when missionaries have been called to America to supervise the printing, the Bible Society contributes for their support while engaged in this supervision. Does it not seem natural and just that the Smithsonian Institute or the U.S. Government which especially desires this ethnological and historical work to be done, should not only pay for the printing but also for the preparing of the material? at least, that they should meet your expenses while you detach yourself from your legitimate religious labors and give your time and skill to this monumental undertaking?

Very respectfully & truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

for how many shall the estimate
be made? 15 from Poplar River. 8 from

July 30 81.

Rev. A. L. Riggs. Santee Agency.

My dear brother:

I have just read yrs of the 26th, inclosing a letter from Mr Robbins. It is very desirable that Indians be transported from the distant stations for the school. I will say, privately, that I think provision can be made for the expense. I will do what I can towards it. But I cannot say, officially, that it shall be done. Please go forward in the matter so far as to ascertain

1. Just how many Indians from each place can be brought to Santee. You may not know definitely; may be disappointed. But for how many shall an estimate be made? "15 from Poplar River. 8 from

August 1. 1881

Berthold & some" how many? "from Standing Rock." –

2. State the amount needed to pay for their transportation: reckon as near the sum as possible.

As soon as you can send these facts I will ask the Pru. Com. to act. We should probably have to make an appropriation, & take the chance of having the money reimbursed by the Indian Dep't.

The delay w'd be too great to get any pledge from the Ind. Com. beforehand: tho of course we would not promise unless a request was made for a definite sum for a definite number of Indians.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

August 1. 1881

Mrs H. S. H. Bickford.
Columbus. Chenango Co. N. Y.

My dear Madam.

Dr Clark has communicated with you in regard to the possibility of your rendering some service in connection with our Dakota mission, I believe.

If not equal to the responsibility of becoming matron of a girls school, perhaps you might be ready for a less laborious position.

Rev. C. L. Hall. of Fort Berthold. has just lost his young wife. An account of her is in the June number of the Missionary Herald. There are at Fort Berthold two lady teachers. Miss Pike, & Miss Ward, who went out in 1880. They have had a home in Mr Hall's family. The family is now broken up.

A letter from Mr Hall recd today has this sentence: "Some advise me to try to get a lady who has missionary spirit to come out & keep house for us at Berthold. – Some missionary widow, perhaps." –

Mr Hall has a little boy with him, I think. Mr Hall himself must be 35 years old. Of his home I know nothing. I have hoped a good lady would be found to keep house for him & for the two young ladies: I hardly know how they can manage.

Should you be inclined to consider such service, with no more information than this, which is all I can communicate? If you would, I should like to suggest to Mr Hall ~~that~~ he write to you & see if an arrangement can be made.

Respectfully & very truly yours.
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

July 20,

Rev. Chas L. Hall.
Fort Berthold.–

My dear brother.

I received on the 16th inst. a request in your behalf, signed by the members of the Dakota Mission, that you might "have a release to look after your children & rest yourself awhile".

Your request was laid before the Prudential Committee at their next meeting, which was yesterday, & the request was granted. – The time during which you wish to be absent was not named. Please let me know how long a rest you desire to take; & what your Post office address will be. – I forward this to Fargo, D. T., as requested.

May the Lord give you the comfort of his presence & protection, & keep your children in His most holy keeping.

Can any provision be made that those who remain at the station during your absence may feel at ease?

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

August 3, '81.

Mrs. Sarah Lee King:
Hillsdale, Mich.

My dear Madam:-

It is my pleasant duty to inform you that at the meeting of the Prudential Committee yesterday, your offer of service was accepted and you were appointed an assistant missionary in connection with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and were designated to the Dakota mission, with the understanding that you are to be stationed at the Santee Agency.

May it prove that the hand of the Lord is in this arrangement, and that it shall result in great spiritual good to the Indians, and in joy and comfort to your own soul.

Respectfully and very truly
Yours in the Lord's service,
John O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

Aug. 3. 1881.

Mr Henry J. King,
Hillsdale. Michigan

My dear brother.

Accompanying this I forward your appointment, which was made yesterday by the Prudential Committee. The decision was reached with hearty unanimity. Only one thing was suggested: that while in ordinary circumstances your age is such as would have prevented favorable consideration of your offer of service, there were counterbalancing considerations which made the Committee accept your offer without hesitation: only that it would be right, if by reason of age you should the sooner be by any cause incapacitated for labor, the Board ought not to be under obligation, express or implied, to provide for your support by any retiring grant or otherwise. I assured the Com. that from my conversation with you, I was sure you would agree that this was right.

I am writing to day to Rev. A. L. Riggs, to inform him of your appointment.

How soon shall you wish to enter upon the new work?

The school term begins in this month. Mr Henry Riggs, who has been performing duty as Steward, is still occupying the apartments in the house which you probably will wish to use. Mrs H. Riggs expects an illness which is the reason why the family are still in their house & at Santee.

I write you now of these things & shall write again next week.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means
Secy.

Aug 3

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency.

My dear brother.

At the meeting of [illegible] Prudential Committee yesterday an offer of service with testimonials was read from Mr [illegible] J. King, of Hillsdale, Mich. & he was appointed an assistant missionary of the A. B. C. F. M. with his wife & designated to the Dakota mission, with the understanding that he be stationed at Santee Agency.

His testimonials, as to his Christian character & his business qualifications, & as to his fitness to labor among the Indians, were very full & strong. From all that is said of him by his life long acquaintances, he [illegible] originally [illegible] has [illegible] & hear [illegible] shall [illegible] building [illegible]; his [illegible] humble, [illegible] of this [illegible] good work. [illegible] him [illegible] the promise [illegible] has [illegible] made. We hope [illegible] to undertake [illegible] work at Santee [illegible] of your multitude [illegible] Mr King & I earn[illegible] you to give yourself to the pushing religious & educational

Aug. 3

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency.

My dear brother.

At the meeting of the Prudential Committee yesterday an offer of service with testimonials was read from Mr Henry J. King, of Hillsdale, Mich. & he was appointed an assistant missionary of the A. B. C. F. M. with his wife, & designated to the Dakota Mission, with the understanding that he be stationed at ~~the~~ Santee Agency.

His testimonials, as to his Christian character & his business qualifications, & as to his fitness for labor among the Indians, were very full & strong. From all that is said of him by his life long acquaintance, he must be a pleasant man to live with. He was originally intending to be a minister; has had a partial collegiate education; has been Secretary & Treasurer of Hillsdale College, had all the charge of erecting buildings & keeping them in repair; & is represented as a humble, warm hearted disciple of Christ, ready for any good word & work.

I have just notified him of his appointment. The precise designation of his duties has not yet been made. We hope he may be able to undertake all the outside work at Santee & relieve you of your multitudinous cares of this kind, & leave you to give yourself to the pressing religious & educational work.

Please let me know the condition of the apartments which were occupied by your brother Henry when I was at Santee, & how soon it would be safe for Mr King to remove his family there.

I see Miss Webb frequently. She is to be present this aft. at a farewell Missionary meeting.

With kind remembrances to Mrs Riggs,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Your card saying the accounts &c. are mailed, has been read & the package will come soon I have no doubt. –

Package has just come by Express.

Aug 3. 81

Rev. W. C. Wilcox,
Bloomville, Ohio.

My dear brother.

Yours of Aug. 2. has just reached me. You are wise, I think, in deferring your purchases for most matters till you reach London & Natal.

It is impossible to name the exact date of your sailing as yet: it will be early in September.

Your expenses will be paid from your proper home to the sea board: as you find your wife in Minnesota, it will be proper to reckon them from her home. You can make any visits you choose, on your way. But any expense incurred in going out of your way are considered as private.

May you have a safe voyage westward & a pleasant season in the wedding.

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Aug. 5 81

J. King.
Hillsdale, Mich.

My dear brother.

I forgot to inquire whether you & Mrs King were singers & knew anything about music.

Please answer this question.

Aug. 5th 81

Mr Henry J. King.
Hillsdale, Mich.

My dear brother.

I forgot to inquire whether you & Mrs King were singers, & knew anything about music.

Please answer this question at once, as a wish has been expressed that some one capable of leading in singing be secured to assist in the school & worship at Santee Agency.

With best wishes.
Very truly yours
J. O. Means.

She writes as follows: —
"I would be willing to consider [illegible]
tion of service [illegible]
in the Mission [illegible]
[illegible]
for the journey [illegible]

1.

Aug 6.

Rev. C. L. Hall.
Fort Berthold. Dakota.

My dear brother.

I received your letter of July 22nd and [illegible] of aid [illegible] a few [illegible] more. [illegible] one of our missionaries, Mrs. [illegible] of Columbus, Chenango County, N. Y., to whom I wrote to inquire whether she could possibly undertake the services desired at Fort Berthold. Mrs. [illegible] born at Columbus, May 1844; [illegible] in company with her husband in 18[illegible] [illegible] where he died in 1876. She returned in 1876 to this country. She has one little child. Dr. Clark thought possibly she might do what is desired, although her health is not firm. I rec'd to day a letter from her of which I give you the substance. If you think best you might open communication with her now, or at some later period.

Respectfully & very truly yours.
J. O. Means. Sec. A. B. C.

Aug 6. 1.

Rev. C. L. Hall.
Fort Berthold. Dakota.

My dear brother:

I received your letter of July 22nd and answered it, and now add a few words more. There is a widow of one of our missionaries, Mrs. Bickford of Columbus, Chenango County, N. Y., to whom I wrote to inquire whether she could possibly undertake the services desired at Fort Berthold. Mrs. Bickford was born at Columbus, May, 1841; went in company with her husband in 1870 to Marash, where he died in 1877. She returned in 1878 to this country. She has one little child. Dr. Clark thought possibly she might do what is desired, although her health is not firm. I rec'd today a letter from her of which I give you the substance. If you think best you might open communication with her now, or at some later period.

Respectfully & very truly yours.
J. O. Means. Sec. A. Bd.

the writer as follows:—

"I would be willing to consider the question of service in the position you mention in the Mission family at Berthold. I am not at present strong enough for the journey, nor even to commence active preparations for such an undertaking, hence I would suggest that you would continue to look for someone with better powers of endurance.

But, if in the course of the season no more capable person be found and I should recover strength enough to make it practicable, I know of no reason why I should not be willing to make the trial.

Yours very respectfully,
H. S. W. Bickford."

With best wishes to Miss Ward and Mr Hall, on his return, I am,

Aug 8. 1881

Miss Sophronia B. Pike,
Fort Berthold. Dakota.

My dear Miss Pike;

The question has been asked whether it would be well to change your sphere of labor from Fort Berthold to the Santee Agency, and assist in the educational work there. I do not know as a change of this kind will be made, certainly none will be made unless you yourself think some such change desirable and would like to have it made. On considering the question I wish you would write me frankly and freely how you feel with regard to your present work and how you would consider proposals to change and undertake work at the Santee Agency. Now that you have just got under way at Fort Berthold many things must make it pleasanter for you to remain there. What your feelings would be, all things considered, I do not know, but should like very much to have your ideas on the subject.

With best wishes to Miss Ward and Mr. Hall, on his return, I am,

Yours very truly
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

My dear Miss Paddock:

I learn from Rev. A. L. Riggs, that he has had some conversation with you about your leaving the Santee Agency and going to Fort Berthold. I have also learned from other sources some things about your health which indicate that in some way you need to be relieved of matters which have been pressing upon you. I had hoped that changes in contemplation at Santee Agency would be such that you would find it as pleasant and conducive to your health to remain there as to engage in labor elsewhere. I have doubted whether if you are worn down physically so as to be unequal to the work at Santee Agency it would be any gain to you or relief to enter upon new work in a new place.

It is proper that you should understand that no changes will be made as to the station

[illegible] Board of Commissioners for [illegible]
Congregational House, 1 Somerset [illegible]

Boston, Aug 8. 1.

Miss Martha M. Paddock.
Santee Agency. Neb.

My dear Miss Paddock:-

I learn from Rev. A. L. Riggs, that he has had some conversation with you about your leaving the Santee Agency and going to Fort Berthold. I have also learned from other sources some things about your health which indicate that in some way you need to be relieved of matters which have been pressing upon you. I had hoped that changes in contemplation at Santee Agency would be such that you would find it as pleasant and conducive to your health to remain there as to engage in labor elsewhere. I have doubted whether if you are worn down physically so as to be unequal to the work at Santee Agency it would be any gain to you or relief to enter upon new work in a new place.

It is proper that you should understand that no changes will be made as to the station where you shall labor without your own hearty consent. None of those who are the ordained ministers at the stations, of course, would feel like asking for changes with reference to the ladies who hold their positions directly from the Prudential Committee, unless these ladies desire it. Please write to me frankly and fully what your own wishes on this point are. You know the reasons, perhaps, which have brought on your present disability, and you know whether it is likely that you would be able to work more easily and with less strain upon your system at Fort Berthold than at Santee. If, all things considered, you think it is best to go to Fort Berthold, your judgment will decide the question, in case Miss Pike also should wish to go to Santee Agency.

I have had some talk with Miss Webb in regard to this matter. She, I hope, will write to you also, and I shall not take any decisive step for a change until I know fully your wishes.

I am very sorry that you find yourself so much worn down that it is necessary to consider any of these questions.

Respectfully and very truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street,
Boston, Aug. 8 1

Rev. A. L. Riggs
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother,

Your letters of Aug 1st and Aug. 3rd have just been received. I wrote you last week that the offer of service from Mr. King for the Santee Agency had been accepted by the Committee. I heard from him yesterday morning that other engagements will prevent his entering upon that important work and also that he has communicated the same to you. This interferes somewhat with plans we were maturing. We shall be still making zealous efforts to obtain a suitable man for the position which it was hoped Mr. King would fill. With regard to what you say of Miss Illsley I will reply, first. there may be duties which she could very well discharge at the Santee Agency if she goes with the distinct understanding that she is not simply nor mainly to be a music teacher. There are many things connected with the vocal and instrumental music which

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street,

Boston, Aug 8. 1.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency. Neb.

My dear brother,

Your letters of Aug 1st and Aug. 3rd have just been received. I wrote you last week that the offer of service from Mr. King for the Santee Agency had been accepted by the Committee. I heard from him yesterday morning that other engagements will prevent his entering upon that important work and also that he has communicated the same to you. This interferes somewhat with plans we were maturing. We shall be still making zealous efforts to obtain a suitable man for the position which it was hoped Mr. King would fill. With regard to what you say of Miss Ilsley I will reply, first. there may be duties which she could very well discharge at the Santee Agency if she goes with the distinct understanding that she is not simply and mainly to be a music teacher. There are many things connected with the vocal and instrumental music which it is certainly very desirable to have in charge of a skilful teacher; but it is hardly expedient to employ an assistant missionary purely for that purpose. What you say of her attending to the sewing for the little girls is very important. Could she not also attend to some of the sewing for the boys, which now must press pretty heavily upon Miss Gleason? Would she not also hold herself ready to discharge other duties which it might be desirable to lay upon her, without overlaying her strength?

Second:- You speak of her as now under engagement or partial engagement at Yankton Agency. We should be very scrupulous not to interfere with their teachers and draw away a person whom they want. Before any engagement is made with Miss Illsley there should be a distinct understanding with our friends at Yankton agency and, if she holds an appointment from the Presbyterian Board, with that Board itself.

Third:- In case Miss Illsley is ready to undertake the work at the Santee Agency, we wish her to make a formal offer of service for appointment as assistant missionary, answering the questions in the manual and presenting such testimonials as are desired. The Prudential Committee is not willing to have her or other teachers engaged temporarily or employed for service without the usual testimonials, and without having from such persons formal offer of service. I send you a copy of the manual. In case it seems to you desirable to endeavor to secure Miss Illsley please communicate with her and forward to her a copy of the manual and have such testimonials as are required, and forward these as soon as possible and the whole shall be laid before the Prudential Committee. From what you say of Miss Illsley I suppose there can be no question but an offer of service from her would be immediately accepted & she would be appointed.

Your suggestion with reference to a matron or one to hold the position of matron at the Home, to board all the teachers, including Mr. Robbins, seems feasible and desirable.

We are already in pursuit of such a person and have great hope that one will be found whose testimonials will be satisfactory and who will enter upon this service. I have had several conversations with Miss Webb with regard to it. It will be very helpful to the work at the Santee agency, if a suitable matron to take this service can be found.

Please present my congratulations to Mrs. Riggs and your brother over the birth of their boy. May the Lord make him a great blessing to them both.

I am afraid your labors have been such that you have not had such rest and vacation as was desirable. I think you are one of those who need to be cautioned again and again against over work lest their case should become as serious as that of Dr. Holmes "One horse chaise" & they should give out altogether.

With kind regards to Mrs. Riggs and your children,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Bd.

Aug 15.

Mrs. Martha R. Morris,
Sisseton Agency, Dakota.

My dear Mrs. Morris:

Your letter of August 11th with the vouchers has come safely and I thank you for it.

I have had forwarded to you a copy of our manual for candidates. In it you will see the questions which it is desirable for candidates to answer. Before Miss Thompson goes to the school again I want her to make formal application to the Board as assistant missionary with testimonials. It is customary to have those from her pastor and Christian friends who have known her; from teachers of the schools ~~of the schools~~ where she has been educated; and from a physician, on examination of her condition, that she is in good health: and other friends who may be acquainted with her. A testimonial from you will probably be as valuable as any we could receive, as you have known her so well. I wish this could be done at once, for we have a teacher in mind whose testimonials will probably be acceptable to the Committee who is ready to engage in this work, in case Miss Thompson does not.

Respectfully and very truly yours.

J. O. Means.
Sec'y of the Am. Bd.

"You marvel that you have not a better knowledge of the conditions of our work than seems to be indicated by your letter." "You seem to be under the impression that the publication of the Dakota Grammar and Dictionary at this time, had been solicited by the Smithsonian Institute. That is not so. We are the solicitors. For half a dozen years we have been discussing the question of how we should get it republished."

It has perhaps been owing to preoccupations and other engagements that in this long period you have sent no communications to us, so far as we can find, with regard to these most im-

Aug. 17 '81.

Rev. S. R. Riggs, LL.D.
Sisseton Agency, Dakota Territory.

My dear Dr. Riggs,

Your letter of July 27th was received Aug. 8th, not in season for an answer to be considered by the Prudential Committee till this week. Hence this delay. The letter to you of July 18, to which yours is a reply, was written with formal approval of the Committee, as is this present letter.

You marvel that you have not a better knowledge of the conditions of our work than seems to be indicated by your letter." "You seem to be under the impression that the publication of the Dakota Grammar and Dictionary at this time, had been solicited by the Smithsonian Institute. That is not so. We are the solicitors. For half a dozen years we have been discussing the question of how we should get it republished.

It has perhaps been owing to preoccupations and other engagements that in this long period you have sent no communications to us, so far as we can find, with regard to these most important and interesting matters. Until your letter of July 27 we had not been made acquainted with the fact that you had been occupying yourself with the great work which you have described. Much less did we know that it was completed, and that application had been made by you to U. S. officials to have it issued "at Government expense".

Possibly we may have seen, in the newspapers, something about it. We did read that you were to be at Washington, for some purpose of this nature: that you were to be at Carlisle as Chaplain. Enquiries were made of us, as of those who of course would know, whether it were so; we were obliged to say that we had received no request from you, or suggestions or information, in regard to it.

We are sure, dear Dr. Riggs, that this has resulted from inadvertence on your part. For, when you were preparing the first Dictionary and Grammar, and other books, you communicated with the Prudential Committee constantly. Our Minutes for 1851, Aug. 6, read: "permission was given to S. R. Riggs to absent himself from his station for the purpose of printing the Dakota Lexicon, in case arrangements can be made for supplying his station with preaching in Dakota. 1864, June 21: "The Committee approve of Mr. Riggs devoting his time for the present, to the preparation of books for the Dakotas." Nov. 4: A sub-Committee was appointed to arrange with the Am. Bible Society "respecting the expenses of Mr. Riggs in New York while supervising the printing of the Dakota Scriptures." 1867, Feb. 26: "The Committee took action with regard to Mr. Riggs' going to Washington to attend to business".

With this explanation, you will certainly excuse our ignorance, at which you marvel, "of the conditions of your work". As Dr. Clark wrote to you, January 10, 1879, "things that are perfectly clear to all you gentlemen are not known to us by intuition. It would be pleasant for us to know a little more how things are doing."

Will you be kind enough, now, to give us still fuller information and describe again, and more minutely, the work in question. How large is to be the volume, or how many the volumes? What subjects are to be treated, and what is the proportion of the several parts? Who are the several authors? How many copies are to be issued? On whom rests the copyright? What is the estimated cost, and how is the cost provided for?— You say for the supervision in the proof reading the government propose to give us 100 copies." Is this gift personal, or to the American Board? Your son Alfred writes: "We made application to have it done at Government expense." Was this application made by the mission? Of course, in all such cases, we wish officially to convey to the Government our thanks for the favor, and will do so, if we may be furnished with a copy of the papers which have passed between you and the Government.

We understand, from your letter and your son Alfred's, that besides this larger work of which the Government is to meet the expense of printing, there is to be another, smaller, "School Dictionary, to supply the students in our schools and agencies and military posts in the Indian country. The expense of this book is to be met with mission funds."— How large is this book to be; how far advanced toward completion; how large an edition is proposed? what is to be the cost?

From your description, the Prudential Committee judge that this smaller book, as being necessary in the mission schools, is in the direct line of legitimate mission literature. Of the other work we can speak more satisfactorily after you kindly reply to our inquiries.

Meanwhile a word seems needful on another point, in view of the surprise you express that "the Prudential Committee have taken it for granted that for you to be away from your mission field for a prolonged period, must be greatly detrimental to the missionary work."

You do not need to be assured, dear Dr. Riggs, of the respect and affection cherished for you, and the confidence reposed in you, by the Prud. Com. and other officials of the American Board. No clearer proof of it could be given than the fact that you now ask: "Have you not known that for years I have spent my winters with my family in Beloit?"

We have not known it, officially. We cannot discover any communication from you proposing it. Our Minutes show no request and no reference of any kind to your residing at Beloit. Your letter of July 27 is the first and the only one we have in regard to it.

By universal law and usage, you know,

no missionary leaves his mission field proper without making request, or if in emergency, without, as soon as possible, making explanation. You were accustomed to do this, in former years. The propriety, not to say necessity, of this rule, you must recognize; and no less, that if an eminent, honored and trusted missionary habitually fails to observe the rule, younger men will quickly and naturally follow the precedent.

We have heard, incidentally, of your living at Beloit. Some of your letters have been dated at Beloit and answers have been sent of course to the place from which the letters came. Inquiries by outsiders have been made. "Is Beloit one of the stations of the North American Indian missions?" "No." "Is not Dr. S. R. Riggs living there?" "He has never written us that he has made that his residence. He has never said to the Committee that for reasons he wished to reside temporarily in Beloit."

Out of regard to your years and services, we did not wish to call your attention to what we supposed, if you once thought of it, you would see to be the impropriety of a missionary's residing away from his designated field, without making any communication about it to the officers of the Board. Would you like to have the Committee treat you as they do not treat, and never have treated any other missionary of any age or services?

Dear Dr. Riggs, you will believe that this is written in sorrow and pain. We wish you were not "in your seventieth year" and that it was not true, as you say it is, that your "eye is dim and your natural strength abated." We would that the years and vigor of a young man were yours, and that you could continue many and long years in this blessed work in which your life has been spent.

Surely you know the Prudential Committee well enough to know that if age or infirmity make it desirable that you be in Beloit or elsewhere, you have but to make the request, and anything compatible with the rules and usages of the Board will be granted to you, and granted heartily; or that, for reasons, upon your request, exceptional arrangements will be made. If there are reasons for your residing a part of the year in Beloit, please name them and how long you wish to be there.

With best wishes for

your continued health and happiness

Very respectfully and truly Yours.

J. O. Means.

Sec'y. Am. B'd.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency.

My dear brother:

I write now merely to inquire whether in the construction and furnishing of the several buildings, numbered in your schedule 1, 2, 3 and 4, being "work-shop," "Birds' Nest," "Boys' Cottage" and "furnishing", there have been received by you, and expended, any sums received from private sources, besides those of which you make account as received from the Board? Does the account which you have forwarded contain simply the expenditures for these several purposes from the grants of the Prud. Comm.?

I hoped before this to be able to write definitely with regard to ~~the~~ an engagement of ~~the~~ a lady to board all the teachers, as has been proposed, and for some other supervision in the Dakota Home. I think we have one who will answer this purpose, and hope her papers will come in very soon.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours, J. O. Means.

Aug. 20. 1.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency.

My dear brother:

I write now merely to inquire whether in the construction and furnishing of the several buildings, numbered in your schedule 1, 2, 3 and 4, being "work-shop &c" "Birds' Nest," "Boys' Cottage" and "furnishing", there have been received by you, and expended, any sums received from private sources, besides those of which you make account as received from the Board? Does the account which you have forwarded contain simply the expenditures for these several purposes from the grants of the Prud. Comm.?

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With best wishes,

Very truly yours, J. O. Means.

Aug. 22. 1.

Mr. J. C. Robbins,

Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother,

Your letter of August 12th was received in due season. I thank you very much for all the information it contains. I wish you to continue giving to me such specific facts, and your opinion on whatever is intimately related to the prosperity of your work where you are. I had hoped that an arrangement had been made by which some things at the agency might be in a more hopeful condition by this time, but our plans were frustrated and we are obliged to begin anew our search for a Competent man to take the position which we had hoped Mr. King and his wife would fill.

I take careful notice of all the statements you make and consider them Confidential.

In one particular, I hope, there will be a better state of things and one more conducive to your successful work. The prospect now is that a lady will go out to help in the Dakota home and take charge of boarding all of the lady teachers, and also yourself, at one table; and I have some other cares of that nature. I am very glad that you are making such good progress in learning the language. Mr. Riggs in his letters has spoken very kindly of your work.

With continued good wishes.

Very truly Yours,
J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Bd.

Aug. 23.

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs

Fort Sully Dakota.

My dear brother;

Your letter of Aug. 18th with the report of the Fort Sully station has just been received. I thank you for it. I shall make large use of your report in preparing my annual report of the Indian missions. The various points to which you draw attention are of great importance and I hope they will be so treated by the Board, and that the suggestions you make with regard, especially, to a Girls Home, may be carried out. I hope that you will take the whole matter over at your annual mission meeting, and if the mission recommends the house for girls of which you speak I will do my best to have the appropriation made for it.

In case this is done by the mission, allow me to ask you to have a careful estimate made beforehand of the cost of erecting and furnishing any building that may be needed. Go into particulars. Have such an estimate as you can abide ty, and make it before any building is begun. Probably the Committee would desire to have a contract made for its erection within the money asked for. I mention this now because a general and vague guess of what such buildings will cost, I find, is very unsatisfactory to the Committee.

With renewed expressions, my dear brother, of tender sympathy for you in the great changes which have come to your family and with many prayers that the Lord may bless you in your work,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means
Sec'y Am. Board.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions,
Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street,

Boston, Aug. 24. 1881.

Miss Martha M. Paddock.
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear Miss Paddock:

I wrote to you Aug. 8th and August 16th, and received a letter from you dated the 12th. I suppose you had not rec'd my letter when you wrote and I have been waiting, thinking perhaps you might answer some questions I asked in my letter, but I presume that you supposed the letter you had sent me would contain the information I wanted. I will say, therefore, first of all, that our Prudential Committee yesterday accepted an offer of service from Miss Faxon, of whom, doubtless, Miss Webb has written to you; and Miss Faxon will go out to the Dakota Home and take charge of providing a table for all the lady teachers and Mr. Robbins, and do that kind of work which you have desired in your letter, and which Mr. Riggs has spoken of. This meets your wishes, I am sure; in fact it is the thing you hoped would be done, and which you believed would be for your relief and give him. I think it will be and, in view of it, I hope you will be able to continue in your work under such respite as will be necessary. Your sister can continue at your work until your health is restored if necessary. It does not seem expedient that you should go to Fort Berthold, all things considered: I have so written to Mr. Riggs.

In the second place, I have written to Mr. Riggs with regard to action taken by the Prudential Committee yesterday which, perhaps, will be a surprise to you, namely: the Committee desire very strongly that Mr. Alfred Riggs and Mr. Thomas Riggs should exchange stations, that Mr. Thomas Riggs shall come to the Santee agency, and Mr. Alfred Riggs go up to Fort Sully. Their familiarity, for the relief of Mr. Thomas Riggs and of Mr. A. Riggs both of them very much worn down; and, also, in as much as it is very desirable to have a mission family at Fort Sully. If Mr. A. Riggs goes there that want will be met, and Mr. T. Riggs whose family has been sadly broken up, may find himself engaged in such labors at the Santee Agency as may refresh and reinvigorate him and give him a better opportunity for labor. We think that on the whole this exchange will be for the advantage of our work among the Indians, making account of all the Stations and the country where the work is to be done.

Miss Webb is in communication with you, and probably will be with you before a great while; Miss Fay on, also, before long. I cannot tell just when, but I presume by the middle of September she will be able to go to the Santee agency.

We think it desirable that the work at Santee among the girls and young women should be under the more direct charge of the lady missionaries. Is there not one of you, you yourself or some other lady whose experience is the greatest, who might take the general charge, say as principal of the schools to manage matters, with full and frank counsel and suggestions from the other lady teachers, so far as respects the young women's home, and the girls' home? This seems to us desirable.

I have had some talk with Miss Webb in regard to it. I do not know as your state of health is such that you could assume this charge, and neither do I know you well enough to say that you are the one to assume it. You will excuse my frankness as you know that my acquaintance with you has been very limited. But I have such confidence in you that I want your opinion in regard to the matter. Is it or is it not desirable that one of you ladies should take charge of this part of the school? Are you the one to do it? Who *is* the one to do it?

Miss Webb will say to you some things which I have said to her with regard to provision being made for an allowance in the nature of an outfit for our assistant missionaries among the Indians, so that you will be able to provide yourself with some conveniences requisite, both for your health's sake and your more effective service.

Respectfully and very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Sec'y Am. Board.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
Congregational House, Somerset Street

Aug. 24, 1881.

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother:

I have the gratifying information to communicate to you and our friends at the Santee Agency, that at the meeting of the Prudential Committee yesterday an offer of service from Miss Faxon, of East Braintree, was accepted, and she was designated to the Dakota mission, Santee Agency, with the expectation that she will render the service of which we have spoken in various letters, namely, of residing in the Dakota Home and furnishing a home for the lady teachers and Mr. Robbins, and any others who may not have homes of their own. The plan, as it has been suggested, seems to us feasible, and we think Miss Faxon is the woman to carry it out successfully. She will be able to take the whole charge of the table for the assistant missionaries, and, incidentally, as she may be able, will also render other service in the Home or elsewhere. She is a teacher of long experience, and success. She has reached a period of life when she wishes to do what she can in the Lord's service; she is a woman of strength of character, simplicity of feeling, genial and companionable, and we hope will prove a most helpful assistant in the work in which you are engaged. // Also, at our meeting yesterday, important action was taken in another direction, with regard to our friends in the Dakota mission. After prayerful consideration, the Committee came unanimously to the conclusion that, for the sake of your brother Thomas and for your own sake, and with a view to the greater efficiency of the work among the Indians, regarded in its broader aspects, it is desirable that an arrangement be made between you and your brother Thomas to exchange stations; that he come down to the Santee Agency and assume, as far as he may, the labor you have been so long bearing, and that you go to Ft. Sully to take up and perhaps enlarge the work he has been undertaking.

I was very much struck, in seeing and conversing with your brother when he was here, with his loneliness and weariness, and with his general solicitude about his field of labor; and his letters have indicated, as you know has been a fact for a long time past, a condition of great weariness on his part. It seems impossible to have any such arrangements for him at Ft. Sully as to relieve very much his condition. In a letter recently received he asks urgently for a missionary family to be there. He considers it absolutely essential; and it seems to be absolutely essential. We have no missionary family to send. It will not be practicable to obtain one at once. Great care would be necessary to secure the right kind of a family; and meanwhile your brother and the assistant missionaries there will be labouring under disadvantages. For him to come to the Santee Agency will be coming into another atmosphere, where he will find much more society and have greater freedom of action and find a complete change from the life he has long been leading. We are firmly convinced that he will be much more likely to continue spiritually, intellectually and physically, in a healthier condition, and work more satisfactorily and pleasantly for himself and for the Indian mission. Of course the change at first will be trying to him, but the gain we think will be positive and very great.

It is very evident that you have had too great and too long a strain upon you in the variety and kind of work in which you have been engaged at the Santee Agency. From various sources, we are satisfied that unless some change be effected for you, the likelihood is that you will be obliged to cease your work, and that before a great while. It does not seem practicable to have you go out for a vacation from your work. It will not be like a true vacation and relief for you to go to Ft. Sully; and yet it will be in a certain sense a relief to you; the change will be a rest, the kind of work for you there will be different from that you have been carrying so long; you will get your shoulders out from under the heavy burdens which have been resting upon them and which, in spite of efforts to relieve you, will continue to press heavily upon you as long as you stay at the Santee Agency. At

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Aug. 24, '81.

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs,
Ft. Sully, Dak.

My dear brother:

I wrote you yesterday a few words. I have now a more important communication to make. I have noticed what you said about the desirableness of a family at Ft. Sully, and agree with you wholly that it is well-nigh indispensable to the success of our work there. After your visit here and my conversation with you, I could not keep out of mind your loneliness and weariness and the difficulties under which, with a brave heart, and a cheerful heart, you evidently were laboring to do the Lord's work. I do not believe that it is healthy for you, physically or morally, to be situated just as you now are, and it seems to us a relief to you, is practicable, which will also be, we think, a relief to your brother Alfred and a positive gain to our whole mission among the Dakotas. The Prudential Committee yesterday voted unanimously, after anxious consideration, of the matter, that it is desirable that you and your brother Alfred exchange stations, - that you go down to the Santee Agency and take, in a measure, the position he has been filling, - that is engage in instruction and evangelistic work and such general care of the school as is needful, having Mr. Robbins take more responsibility than he has yet taken, and having one of the ladies take general superintendence of the girls and womans department; then, that your brother Alfred with his family come up to Ft. Sully and labor there, and perhaps enlarge the work there somewhat. We have already arranged to have a lady of experience and character go out to the Young Womans Home, and constitute there a home for the lady teachers and Mr. Robbins. She will have a table at which all who have not homes of their own can board, and if you desire it of course you would be able to join their company, and a home would be made for you all. Change of place and change of work, + introduction into a fresher and fuller social life, will be certainly helpful to you. We believe you are abundantly qualified to do the work which needs to be done at Santee Agency. Your brother Alfred is overworn. He may not know it himself, but others perceive it. His nervous strength is very much worn down; he has so much upon him that if he continues long as he is it will not be long before he will utterly break down. By coming up to Ft. Sully, his family will be the family that is needed there. As soon as possible another family will be secured for Ft. Sully. It is impossible, of course, to procure one that we should think suitable for that work without looking about a good deal before such a family could be found. If your brother does not come, I am afraid you would be, if you should remain at Ft. Sully, utterly discouraged and worn down. It may naturally be expected that to take away your brother Alfred from the educational work at the Santee and to have even yourself go there will not at once be for the advantage of the schools. I say this without any disparagement of your abilities. No one could go in and do at once just what your brother Alfred has been doing; but we think that before a great while the work will go on as well as it is now going on; new elements will be introduced, and we are very firmly convinced that the work among the Indians as a whole, including all the stations and outlying stations, will be a larger and more successful work by the change which we propose.

I wrote to you yesterday with regard to the establishment of a girls' school at Ft. Sully, and I have spoken of this to your brother Alfred in a letter which has just been written to him. You will probably be startled at first by the suggestion which the Committee make. Think it over; pray over it — and may the Lord guide you. We believe He will, and that the result will be not only for your own freshening and invigorating and more successful work, but for the advantage of the great cause in which we are engaged.

With most fraternal sympathy,

Very truly yours in the Lord,

J. O. Means.

Secy Am. Board.

Fort Sully you will be farther away from some of your literary work, but the distance will not be very great, and, with recent railway communication, the difficulties will not be so great but that they had better be borne, we think, than for the change not to be made. The greatest inconvenience will be that which dear Mrs. Riggs and your family will experience. It will not be easy for you to pull up and go to Ft. Sully. Mrs. Riggs and your family will lose many of the pleasant things with which you are able to surround yourselves at Santee; but your brother Thomas is largely to be benefited, we think, and life at Ft. Sully must now be very much pleasanter than when he took his young wife and commenced his family life there.

Your brother has written about the desirableness of having a girls' school started and school house built at Ft. Sully. I have asked him, in case the mission endorses the project, to have careful estimates made of the expense, and I have no doubt the Committee will make sufficent grant for the purpose.

What will be the effect of all this upon our work at the Santee? Of course we have asked ourselves that question and pondered it very carefully. No one can step into your place and at once do what you have been doing; there will be temporary loss. I say this without reflecting at all upon your brother Thomas. We believe, however, that after the first newness wears off, your brother Thomas will take hold and do effectively and successfully the work which needs to be done, in the teaching and in the preaching and supervising at the Santee Agency. Mr. Robbins meanwhile has been broken in to some extent, and larger responsibilities can be laid upon him. We desire also that the charge of the girls and young women be committed to the assistant teachers to a greater extent than has been done. Under any circumstances, it seems expedient that Miss Paddock, or some other one of the ladies, the one of most experience and character, should be the head of the schools on the female side, and have charge and be responsible for the training and supervision of the scholars, in consultation and cooperation with her assistant teachers.

Miss Webb returns reinvigorated, I think.

It does not seem to us expedient that Miss Paddock should go to Ft. Berthold, as has been suggested. We do not think that her health will justify her making that change. We think that with the changes proposed, after some rest perhaps, especially in view of the fact that Miss Faxon is coming into the Home, Miss Paddock will be able soon, if not at once, to resume her work, and other assistants so far as necessary may be procured, to make good the deficiency which may result from your leaving Santee.

Even if our work at Santee should temporarily suffer by the change, the Committee are clearly of the conviction that our whole work among the Indians would receive a new impulse, and be carried on more successfully; in connection with the proposed change. We therefore have not hesitated to take the action we have, and hope that you and your brother Thomas will be able in this way to enlarge very much the noble works you have been doing for the Indians.

Of course the ~~th~~ expense involved in making the exchange proposed will be met by special grant from the Committee.

You may believe, my dear brother, that we have not come to the conclusions we have, with regard to this matter affecting so intimately you and your brother and our Indian mission, without great solicitude and an anxious desire to consult your own comfort, as well as to do that which the good of the cause in which we are all engaged requires. May the Lord guide you and guide us all.

Most sincerely yours,

J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

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25. 81.

[illegible] English Department of our Industrial Boarding [illegible] Agency for an average of [illegible] pupils [illegible], and for the [illegible] Agency for an average of twenty pupils, if practicable, on the same plan as provided for in the agreement made the 21st of September 1880 between the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs and Nathaniel G. Clark, Secretary of the A.B.C. for Foreign Missions. That is, I request that the agreement made for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1881, be renewed to these two schools for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1882.

The care of our Indian schools of which Secretary Clark had charge last year is now under my charge, and therefore

I make this application instead of its being made by Secretary Clark.

August 25. 81.

To the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs;-

Dear Sir; J. O. Means.

Secretary of American [illegible] for Foreign Missions.

In behalf of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions I make application to you for a grant in aid of the English Department of our Industrial Boarding and Day School at Santee Agency for an average of thirty pupils, if practicable, and for the same school at Sisseton Agency for an average of twenty pupils, if practicable, on the same plan as provided for in the agreement made the 21st of September, 1880 between the Honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs and Nathaniel G. Clark, Secretary of the A. B. C for Foreign Missions. That is, I request that the agreement made for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1881, be renewed to these two schools for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1882.

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I make this application instead of its being made by Secretary Clark.

Respectfully yours.
John O. Means.

Secretary of American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Rev. A. L. Riggs;
Santee Agency,

My dear brother,

I have received your letters of Aug. 19th and 18th in due time. I wrote to you Aug. 8th, 20th & 24th, Aug. 6th with regard to Miss Ilsley and on receiving your reply with reference to her forwarded the Manual. I had hoped before this to receive her application for service.

I am very sorry that it will be utterly impossible for me to be present at your Mission Conference the 19th of Sept. On very many accounts I should be very glad to be there; but Dr. Alden's prolonged absence has thrown so much work upon the other secretaries that in view of the near approach of the An. Meeting, it is utterly impossible for me to be absent. I regret very much that this is the case.

Miss Webb leaves next week to resume her work, we hope in health and strength. Miss Faxon will endeavor to accompany her. Miss Webb's salary ceased and provision has been

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street,

Boston, Sept. 2, 1881.

Rev. A. L. Riggs;
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear brother;

((I have received your letters of Aug. 19th and 18th in due time. I wrote to you Aug. 8th, 20th & 24th, - Aug. 8th with regard to Miss Illsley, and, on receiving your reply with reference to her, forwarded the Manual. I had hoped before this to receive her application for service.

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Miss Webb leaves next week to recommence her work, we hope in health and strength. Miss Faxon will endeavor to accompany her. Miss Webb's salary ceased and provision has been made here for her travelling expenses, and expenses connected with her illness, so that the salary of the two months of her absence, about which you speak, you will pay to the one who supplied her place, as you desire.

You speak of Miss Pike's coming down from Ft. Berthold to remain at Santee for a year. It does not seem to us desirable that Miss Pike leave Ft. Berthold. Whoever goes there must begin again where Miss Pike began, in learning the language; and it does not seem to be wise to take Miss Pike away when she has had at least a year's experience there and opportunity of studying, for work at Santee Agency. As I wrote to you, Miss Paddock is to remain at Santee Agency. If Miss Illsley comes, will there not be as many ladies as you desire there? In case another lady is needed at Santee, or Berthold in addition to Miss Pike, or at the Sisseton Agency, I have no doubt one could be secured. There is one, and perhaps there are two, who probably would offer themselves for the service.

In my letter to you of May 19th I communicated to you the action of the Committee with regard to the appropriations asked for in your letter of April 1st. The Committee, as I stated, postponed action, and requested that you would furnish your accounts, showing the amounts expended for buildings and furnishing, with vouchers. When your accounts with vouchers came, the Finance Committee were out of the city. Immediately on their return, the[illegible] were placed in their hands. They have examined the accounts and vouchers, and reported to the Prudential Committee this week, and their report has been accepted and their recommendations have been adopted. The Committee notice that the large proportion of bills and accounts are not vouchers in the proper sense, inasmuch as they are not receipted. The total sum for which the vouchers are presented amounts to $8,847.13, under the four items of (1) "Work-shop", chapel, cottage, and finishing young men's hall. (2) "Birds Nest", (3) "Boy's Cottage" and (4) "Furnishing." The vouchers regularly receipted, they report, aggregate $438.13. Among other vouchers, partial~~ly~~ receipts aggregate $66.14. Other vouchers are certified as correct and receipted by yourself, aggregating $419.73. As to the remainder, the amount of $7523.13, there are no signatures to the bills indicating that they have been paid. They?

you have, and can furnish conclusive evidence?

are invoices or transcripts of account, & some of them marked "paid", but with no signature. The Finance Committee call special attention to the fact. They do not know whether it is an oversight or whether some of these bills have not been paid. The Com. also notice that the amount of these bills is very much in excess of the several amounts asked for by you and granted for these several purposes; and they feel uncertain whether or not there are outstanding bills to be paid in addition to the grants already made, and to the grants which you request to cover deficiencies and to complete the buildings. It was voted, therefore, on recommendation of the Sub-Committee, First, "that the sum of $70. so urgently requested by you for earth closets in connection with the Girls' Nest be granted," and it is granted. Secondly, "that the making of other appropriations to cover deficiencies and for new work, as the finishing of other rooms in the Boys' Cottage, be still deferred until definite information can be obtained from you as to three particulars, viz.

(1) Whether the bills you have sent, and which are not receipted have been paid, and whether you have, and can furnish conclusive evidence?

(2) Whether the sums now asked for to cover deficiencies, will fully cover deficiencies, and pay all expenses incurred already for the buildings and the finishing? (3) If the deficiencies will be thus covered, from what source or sources have been obtained, means to pay the large sum which would seem to be still unprovided for, being the sum in excess of any of our appropriations which is covered by these bills?"

I am very sorry that there has been this inevitable delay in bringing matters to this conclusion, and I hope that you will be able very soon to send such replies as will be satisfactory on all these points, that this whole matter may be concluded.

My letter of Aug. 24th and 20th I have no doubt you will answer as soon as you are able.

With best wishes to you all at the mission, and with many hopes that your coming Mission Conference will be a most interesting and pleasant one,

Very sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

Sept. 7 1.

Miss Susan Webb,
Weymouth; mass.

Dr. Means is so occupied that he requests me to reply to your card of this morning, & that, he thinks you should delay, and go with Miss Faxon on Monday evening.

Very truly Yours
C. H. Chapin

Miss [illegible] Paddock

My dear Miss Paddock

Your letter of [illegible] in which you speak of [illegible] Mr Kieps [illegible] was very glad to receive. It was what I expected from you. I should have been pained & disappointed if [illegible] much respect & affection for him. When Miss Webb learned of the proposed change, she hastened to speak of Mr Kieps as you have done. And a letter from Mr Robbins gives utterance in like manner to his feelings for Mr Kieps. This is most honorable to you all we believe & is what we expected & took for granted to be the feeling of you all, in respect to him. You have been so long & so intimately associated with him not to [illegible] & appreciate his great capacity & earnest devotion & singleness of purpose, his deep [illegible], & his tender & generous

Miss Martha M. Paddock

Santee Agency, ~~Dak~~ Nebraska.

My dear Miss Paddock.

Your letter of Aug. 30th, in which you speak of your "astonishment & grief at what Mr Riggs told you of the proposed change, at Santee & at Ft Sully" I was very glad to receive. It was what I expected from you: I should have been grieved & disappointed if you had not given expression to such respect & affection for him. When Miss Webb learned of the proposed change, she hastened to speak of Mr Riggs as you have done. And a letter from Mr Robbins gives utterance in like manner to his feelings for Mr Riggs. This is most honorable to you all we believe, & is what we expected & took for granted to be the feeling of you all, in respect to him. You have been too long & too intimately associated with him not to know & appreciate his great capacity & earnest devotion & singleness of purpose, his self denials, & his tender & generous sympathies for his associates, his untiring industry in all kinds of work required for the Indian Mission, & that decisive strength of will on which his associates could lean & be sure it would not give way.

Of course the first shock of the thought of his leaving for work elsewhere, & of his brother Thomas's coming to take up some of his burdens, would be very painful. But I was confident that when you grew accustomed to the thought of the change, & viewed it in its relations to him, as a measure greatly to relieve him, & in its relations to his brother Thomas, imperatively needing change, & in its relations specially to our whole Indian work, your calm judgment would coincide with that of the Prudential Committee, that this change is desirable beyond question.

Under the circumstances, it seemed to be better for me to lay your letter & Miss Robbins's before the Pru. Com.; & I did so yesterday presenting them as the feeling of the teachers at Santee towards Mr Riggs.

has addressed Miss Webb [illegible] expressing similar feelings of affection & respect for him. I did this, as you & Mr Robbins asked whether the Committee might not change their opinions as to the desirableness of the proposed change.—

The Com. appreciate & all fully share your high regard for Mr Riggs. Their regard for him, for his brother Thomas, & for the broader work among the Indians, makes them clear & unanimous in their judgment ~~that~~ this change is expedient.

Mr Alfred Riggs has long been overburdened. He has too much upon him. He may be relieved by going to Ft Sully. As long as he is at Santee, he cannot be disentangled from the care & responsibility of everything. If he should remain there, he could not relinquish responsibilities to others. If things he has managed did not go right, he would be pestered
This is human nature surely, anybody must see.
& disturbed. The only possible relief for him, we are firmly convinced, is a change.

By change he will not receive [illegible]
work & better work for the [illegible] of Station
[illegible] Chicago, do more
[illegible] than he

has ever done. Sept. 7. 1881

Rev. Thomas L. Riggs needs change more than Alfred L. There ought at once to be a missionary family at Ft. Sully. We have none to send there. T. L. R.'s position must be extremely uncomfortable.

We have a very high opinion of him as of his brother. As soon as he gets his family in, he will do double work at Sully. He has rare qualities.

In view of our whole Indian work, we think this change will be most beneficial. Responsibilities need to be laid upon more of you, we think. By the withdrawale of Mr Alfred Riggs you will all develope in directions in which your energies have not been operative. Ultimately it will be better for you individually, despite your present loss in having him go: & much more will be accomplished for the great cause. This is our very clear conviction.

Thanking you for writing so frankly, trusting you will continue to do so.

Respectfully & most sympathetically yours,
J. O. Means.

Sept. 7. 1881

Mr J. C. Robbins,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear Mr Robbins:

I thank you for your extremely frank & earnest letter of Aug. 31, in which you give such touching proof of your regard for Mr A. L. Riggs & deprecate his leaving Santee Agency for Ft Sully. It is pleasant to have these expressions of affection respect; we were confident that Mr Riggs associates felt towards him as you & Miss Paddock in your letters, & Miss Webb in her interview with me, have represented.

As you ask: "Can you not send word that the Prud. Com. has reconsidered the matter, & think it best for Mr Riggs to remain at Santee?" I laid your letter & Miss Paddock's before the Com. yesterday.

I am sure that, in spite of all your tender sense of loss in having Mr Riggs make a change your calm judgment, when you look over the question as the

Prud. Com. have been obliged to do, will coincide with what remains the clear & unanimous opinion of the Com., that as a relief to Mr. Alfred L. Riggs, & to Mr. Thos. L. Riggs, & in view of the demands of the whole Indian work, it is most desirable that this change should take place.

I began to write first to Miss Paddock whose letter was of the same tenor as yours. As I do not wish to repeat what I have said to her, please ask her permission to show you my letter to her. You will then see what view our Committee take. Yesterday, after hearing your letter & Miss Paddock's, they saw no reason to change their opinion.

There is always pain & hardship in any great changes. Those who are most to be benefitted often do not see it at the time so clearly as those who are at a distance. This change will bring great & absolutely needed relief to these two noble missionaries, & we do not believe any expedient can do it so well. We believe they will be able to work longer, with less wear & tear & with more general effectiveness. We think all the assistant missionaries will come into their true places, as to bearing responsibilities, & will find themselves working to ultimately better results.

However, I did not mean to repeat things I have suggested in the letter to Miss Paddock.

I thank you for speaking out so freely your feelings, & hope you will not think your feelings are not duly regarded because the Pru. Com. are still so clearly convinced that absolutely the only relief for our missionaries & only way of advancing the general good of our Indian work is as suggested.

May the Lord prosper you most abundantly in your work. Miss Mather & Miss Faxon leave next Monday evening for the Santee.

Very Sincerely Yours.

J. O. Means.

Sept. 9

Rev. C. L. Hall.

My dear brother

Your letter of
Aug. 26. from Standing Rock
came in due time. I did
not think Mrs Bickford was
the one to meet the necessities
of the case: but as Dr Clark
had corresponded with her,
I forwarded the letter to you.

It is a very delicate thing
to arrange, anyhow.

There is a widow lady in
New Hampshire who made
offer of service ~~the other day~~
She; if not needed in China,
might go to the Indian Mission.
She impressed us very pleas-
antly: has no children: is
about 37 yrs of age I think.

I write at once however,
because of what you say of
the Indians at Standing Rock
"If we can have the means
to send some one at least a
Dakota native preacher or
teacher" [illegible]
with success.

You can have the means
and the [illegible]
at once [illegible]
meeting the expenses [illegible]
proved. I would [illegible]
delay.

Of course it is [illegible]
to speak at present of a
white missionary, unless
you know of some one who
is familiar with the language.

As you indicate that
you are about leaving for
the Mission Annual meeting,

I send the letter in care of Rev.
A. [illegible]
[illegible] at his
[illegible] for all, at
[illegible] it is
[illegible] as soon
[illegible]
means

because of what you say of the Indians at Standing Rock. "If we can have the means to send some one, at least a Dakota native preacher or teacher," you say, it will meet with success.

You can have the means. Find the man & send him at once; the means of meeting the expense will be provided. I would not delay.

Of course, it is of no use to speak at present of a white missionary, unless you know of some one who is familiar with ~~the~~ language.

As you indicate that you are about leaving for the Mission Annual meeting, I send this to the care of Rev. A. L. Riggs.

May the Lord pour out His Holy Spirit upon you all, at the meeting, & make it a memorable occasion!

Most sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

The closing [illegible] the first intelligence that Miss [illegible] was to leave. Perhaps you had forgotten to speak of it before, & in [illegible] me to take her place. [illegible] till this morning's letter [illegible] had been done. Of course [illegible] to secure the right [illegible]. Please make the best [illegible] possible.

As to Miss Pike [illegible] place, I did not know it was [illegible] your letter came. From what is said of her characteristics & condition, [illegible]

Sept. 10. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency. Neb.

My dear Brother.

I have to thank you for your transmission of the Annual Report, which reached me on the 7th inst.; & for your letter of the 5th, just received. I had been looking for the report some days & was particularly glad to get it.

The closing sentences of the report gave the first intelligence that Miss Skea was to leave. Perhaps you had forgotten to speak of it before, & in season to look up one to take her place. I did not know till this morning's letter that nothing had been done. Of course it is impossible to secure the right woman at once. Please make the best temporary arrangement possible.

As to Miss Pike's taking the place, I did not know it was thought of, till your letter came. From what is said of her characteristics & condition, I then supposed that it had been counted upon. Moreover, the moment you intimated that Miss Pike was to be transferred by you & Mr. Hall from Fort Berthold, I wrote to know her wishes & to learn her views about it. Her reply was such that there could be no doubt that no transfer should be made.

Pray what do you mean by saying that Miss Paddock's going to Ft Berthold "was vetoed by Miss Webb"? I am quite at a loss to know what is in your mind. I was not aware that Miss Webb had done anything in this direction.

As soon as you intimated that you should transfer Miss Paddock to Ft Berthold, I wrote to Miss Paddock, to learn her wishes & state of health, & how the movement was regarded by her. Her reply was such as left no doubt on our minds that she ought not to be sent to Ft Berthold.

There had been no meeting of the mission to consider these things: the proposed transfers seemed to be under weigh & the matter apparently had reached such a stage that no mission independent judgment could be had: the whole would have been practically settled before the mission meeting.

I have received an offer of service from Miss Ilsley, & as soon as the physician's certificate comes, shall lay the papers before the Prud. Com. & have no doubt ~~that~~ she will be accepted.

There are two ladies to be had, I think, for our Indian mission — though neither, I am afraid, is equal to Miss Ilsley's duties. One I was proposing to have go to Sisseton, & have waited to know definitely whether Mrs Morris wanted one. Mr M. wrote me this week ~~that~~ she supposed Miss Thompson will make offer of service at once. If so, & if, as I trust will be the case, her testimonials are satisfactory, no one will be needed in addition, I presume, at Sisseton.

Another missionary for Santee, & one on whom the burden of outside matters can be laid, we are looking for. There is no one in prospect at present.

Mr Hall has written about sending a

native Dakota preacher & teacher to Standing Rock: & thinks one can be had if means of support are provided. I have written to him to have the preacher sent as soon as possible, & the Com. will undoubtedly provide for the expense.

Miss Webb & Miss Faxon intend to leave here next Monday night. They go by way of Yankton, I understand. I think Miss Faxon will prove a valuable accession.

I should have acknowledged the receipt of your reply to my letter of Aug. 20. Have you read the letter of Sept. 2. containing inquiries &c. from the Finance Com. & the Prud. Com.?

I wrote, by direction of the Prud. Com. a letter to your father Aug. 17. asking further information about publications &c., which I take for granted reached him safely.

With best wishes to you all at Santee, & with many prayers that the session of the Mission Conference may bring a great blessing.

Very truly yours, J. O. Means

Sept. 17 '

My dear General.

I thank you for the intelligence in your letter of the 15th just received.

When your announcement of Mrs Fairchild's death came I [illegible] it to the desk. No charge was made for inserting it.

I have just given the money you sent to the Cong'list. & the credits your subscription paid up to Dec. 4. 1882.

May we live to read it along.

I read yesterday from Secy Office, notice that our contract for Indian Schools will not be renewed.

The following reply I forward for you to read, & then please seal it & forward it to the Department.

It is a very important fact, if it be a fact, that aid is to be cut off from all the mission & denominational schools.

If any discrimination is to be made, & if one Board is to be cut off & another to be favored: if our Board especially the oldest & longest in Indian work, is to be cut off, & others continued to be aided, there will be very deep feeling about it, inevitably.

I most sincerely trust the Hon. Commissioner will reconsider his decision.

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Genl E. Whittlesey
Board of Indian Com.
Washington.

Sept. 17. 1.

Hon. H. Price.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, etc., etc.

Sir:—

We have just received your communication of Sept. 15. in which you say that it is "impracticable for this office to comply with the request" of the Am. Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions" for the renewal of the contract for the partial maintenance of the Santee and Sisseton Schools for the current fiscal year."

It is with great surprise and regret that we learn of this decision. We most respectfully and urgently request that you will reconsider it, and before making it final give due weight to some facts which perhaps have not been brought to your notice.

Our Board has been working for the Christian civilization of the Indians more than sixty years. Owing largely to the labors of our missionaries those which were once wild tribes have been transformed into the Cherokee and

At our Annual Meeting to be held at St. Louis, Oct. 18, if we are obliged to report that the government is to cut us off from the small grant of aid for Indian Schools, our large constituency will be greatly disturbed. The question we must answer will be: "Are all the Missionary and denominational organizations also cut off from this aid? Are the Episcopalians, and the Presbyterians, and the Methodists, and the Friends, and the Roman Catholics, to have no aid for their Indian Schools?" Of course, we presume, you make no invidious distinction, and do not grant aid to other bodies while withholding it from us. Will you be kind enough to inform us on this point, that we may intelligently answer the questions which are sure to be asked by our Constituency?

Trusting that you will see your way clear to renew our contract, and that you will excuse us, under the circumstances, for respectfully urging

Choctaw nations, and most beneficent changes have been wrought among other tribes. It is upon record that the preservation to the United States of the vast regions of Idaho, Montana, and Oregon, when our government, under false information, was about conceding that rich territory to Great Britain, was owning to representations of the true state of things, and especially of the practicability of crossing the Rocky Mts., made by our missionaries who knew of the passes, and who guided over the pioneer emigrants to take possession for the United States. Down to this present time our Board has continued its Indian schools, and has expended large sums upon them. The government has never made appropriations to any amount for our schools. In 1880 the sum was only nineteen hundred dollars ($1907.34) Missionary Boards of other denominations whose Indian work is but recent have received, it is understood, government aid for schools to a much greater extent.

a reconsideration of the matter. Sept. 19. 1881

I have the honor to be,

truly yours.

John O. Means.

Sec'y of the Am. Board.

Rev. A. L. Perry, [illegible] Agency. Seb.

[illegible] of the 13th has just reached me. I wrote to you, I think, that Miss Ilsley's papers had been read, except the physician's certificate; they will be acted upon as soon as this comes, which I expect at any moment, & I have no doubt the appointment will be made.

Miss Shepard, it appears, has not been under appointment by the Pru. Com. but under engagement by you. It is not necessary therefore for the Com. to act with regard to her leaving: you can arrange it as you judge expedient. As to what she ought to receive for expenses &c, of course what is proper will be granted. As you suggest, it should come into next year's expenses. In your annual estimates, please insert an item for this. & it will undoubtedly be allowed. If necessary for her immediate wants, could you not advance the amount, 1.

Sept. 19. 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Santee Agency. Neb.

My dear brother.

Your letter of the 13th has just reached me. — I wrote to you, I think, that Miss Ilsley's papers had been read, except the physician's certificate: they will be acted upon as soon as this comes, which I expect at any moment, & I have no doubt the appointment will be made.

Miss Sheppard, it appears, has not been under appointment by the Prud. Com., but under engagement by you. It is not necessary therefore for the Com. to act with regard to her leaving: you can arrange it as you judge expedient. As to what she ought to receive for expenses &c., of course what is proper will be granted. As you suggest, it should come into next year's expenses. In your annual estimates, please insert an item for this: & it will undoubtedly be allowed. If necessary for her immediate wants, can you not advance the amount,

[illegible]
There will be [illegible]
Our [illegible]
[illegible]
my [illegible]
for her restoration [illegible]
of [illegible] recompense.

This [illegible] that we shall not have the estimates for the next year for the Mission prepared as soon as the Missions have taken action. The estimates from other Missions are all in.

Has there been any special trouble with the government inspector, or agent, or any complaints agst our schools? I am not aware of what has taken place so far. I was not aware of signs of unfriendly feeling. I do not know that there is any complaint. But a communication from Hon. Com. Price last week notifies us that no grants in aid to the schools at Santee & Sisseton will be made for the coming year. I have written an urgent request to the Com. to reconsider his decision.

[illegible] should be relieved of this, it would materially facilitate his favor to the matters here.

I trust the Lord by His Holy Spirit will guide you in your mission meeting this week.

Very truly yours,
J. O'Meara.

2.

something like the sum you speak of. There will be no risk, then, there, in doing so.

Please give my special regards & perhaps my sympathy to Miss Shepard, & best wishes for her restoration to health & resumption of labor in due time.

This reminds me that we shall wish to have the estimates for the next year from the mission forwarded as soon as the mission have taken action. The estimates from other missions are all in.

Has there been any special trouble with the government inspectors or agents, or any complaints as to our schools? Except what has taken place at Sisseton, I was not aware of signs of unfriendly feeling. I do not know that there is any complaint. But a communication from Hon. Com. Price last week notifies us that no grants in aid to the schools at Santee & Sisseton will be made for the coming year. I have written an urgent request for the Com. to reconsider his decision.

& have laid some facts before him to influence him to renew the contract. I have also written to Genl Whittlesey to see what he can do. If gratuities are continued to the Episcopal Schools, & those of the Friends, & of the Presbyterian & R. Catholics, & are withheld from our Schools, something will need to be done. I hope the Hon. Comr will renew the contract, tho' his letter is a positive refusal.

I think Miss Jayson should relieve Mrs Riggs of the care of the men you speak of. I suppose these all eat together at the table. She takes charge of all, keeps acct of Club. & apportions expenses. The average cost of boarding each one can be known, & this may be charged to the account of the workmen & pupils you speak, or to the repairs, if the workmen do not pay for board themselves.

Of course care should be taken to have the wishes of the teachers & their feelings consulted as to receiving the workmen to their table. There need be no trouble as to this & other details, I think. Only, I am sure Mrs

Sept. 28. 81.

Miss Harriet B. Ilsley,
Santee Agency. Neb.

My dear Miss Ilsley,

I have the pleasure of informing you that at the meeting of the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions yesterday, your offer of service as an assistant missionary in connection with the American Board was accepted, and you were designated to the Dakota mission.

It is understood that your station is to be at Santee Agency. I hope it will prove that you and we have been guided by the Lord in this designation. Your testimonials were abundantly satisfactory, and, by the blessing of God, we shall look for good results in your work among the Indians.

As a first condition of successful labor among them you will appreciate, of course, the necessity of acquiring their language, and so placing yourself in intimate relations with their modes of thought and feeling. Beside your contribution to the success of the work at the mission station in musical matters, we hope that your teaching faculty in other directions will find full scope. We hope also that in addition to all the stimulus and instruction you can give to the young Indians for their intellectual development, the Lord will make you a great blessing for the opening of spiritual life in their hearts.

With best wishes, and with the hope that you will communicate freely and fully with us in regard to all matters of interest.

Respectfully and very truly yours.
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

Oct. 1. 1881.

Hon. H. Price, U. S. Commissioner Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior.
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of September 27th, and thank you for the explanations you give with regard to the grants in aid to various societies engaged in the education of the Indians.

We do not doubt your appreciation of, and interest in, our work among the Sioux, and are very glad that you are able to renew the contract for the school at the Sissiton Agency.

This morning the blanks for the contract in quintuplicate have been received. I return them, herewith, signed by Dr. Clark, with two witnesses to his signature.

With great respect,
Yours very truly
John O. Means.
Sec'y A. B. C. F. M.

Oct. 1. 81.

Rev. C. L. Hall,
Fort Berthold. Dakota.

My dear brother:

Your letter dated Sisseton Agency, Sept. 27th, has just reached me. I am sorry that you did not succeed in obtaining a Dakota preacher for Standing Rock, and I hope the arrangement for Mr. Thomas Riggs can be carried out and that he will be able to spend a part of his time there this winter.

The estimates of the mission have not yet reached me. I suppose that the amount of $600. covers something more than the support of the missionary at Standing Rock. Whatever is necessary for the efficiency of the work there, I have no doubt that the Prudential Committee will grant.

I trust you are returning to your work refreshed not merely by the visit to your associates but by the change of scene which it has involved. There will, of course, be a special sense of desolation in returning after an absence to the home where such great sorrows have fallen upon you. May He who enters with full sympathy into the feelings of all His disciples comfort and cheer you in all the lonely months which are to come. A sweet sense of His presence holds us up when all other consolation is vain.

Please give my best wishes to the lady teachers. Many prayers are going up that ~~the~~ a large blessing may come to you at Fort Berthold in all departments of your work this winter.

Very truly yours,
O. Means
Sec'y Am. Board.

Oct. 4.

Miss Rachel A. Faxon,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear Miss Faxon;

Your letter of September 28th has just reached me. I am glad to hear of your safe arrival, and the promising condition of things which you find at the Home.

With regard to the furnishing of the Home; this seems to me proper:- first, the furnishing, tables, crockery, stoves, and such things as are needful for the girls, and which are used for their comfort, ought to be provided, and will be, by a grant from the Prudential Committee. But you are undertaking another special work; you and the lady teachers and Mr. Robbins are constituting a home of your own; you are preparing a table for board, and are all to live in a certain sense together. Now, when our missionaries go abroad they generally keep house, and in order to meet the first charge of providing furniture, crockery, and similar things, for their house-keeping an allowance is made to them for this purpose. This is one of the objects for which the "outfit allowance" is made.

Assistant missionaries in the Indian agency should have their proper outfit. From conversation with Miss Webb, and consideration of the less expense involved in procuring articles for house-keeping in this country than in procuring them abroad, it has seemed that an outfit allowance of $150. would be suitable for an assistant missionary in the Indian mission. From this allowance should be met the expense of the housekeeping furniture and conveniences needed by the ladies and Mr. Robbins. They are and will be, then, your private property. If you need a stove in your own room and furniture, these articles will be yours and may be properly provided for by you; and if you desire the usual outfit allowance, or a part of it, it will be granted to you and at once, and you will appropriate it for this or any other objects.

Miss Webb has drawn her outfit

allowance, and a proper part of it will be expended for the housekeeping conveniences for herself, and so far as she shares them with the rest of you in the Home.

Miss Paddock has also drawn hers a part of that would properly be expended in providing her proportion of the articles needed. So at the other assistant missionaries.

You speak of some teachers who are not under appointment but only stated supplies, and that they would not feel inclined to invest in mission property. If there are those who are only stated supplies it must be a temporary arrangement according to our rules. Those who are employed in our missions, save in exceptional cases, ought to be appointed by the Prudential Committee, and ~~satisfactory~~ suitable persons will be appointed on presenting satisfactory testimonials, and then an outfit allowance will be made to them. I suppose any who have been or may now be temporarily engaged in mission work as teachers at the Santee Agency will, in due time, make offer of service with testimonials, and be duly appointed by the Prudential Committee, as it will be very much better for them, we think, and conducive to their successful work.

Please write to me fully with regard to your impressions of the work, and what may seem to you desirable in your special department.

Give my special regards to Miss Webb.

Yours very truly.
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

Oct. 6 81.

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency.

My dear brother. –

In my letter of Sept. 28. I wrote: –

"Please let me know who is responsible for the appearance in the "Word Carrier" for September, page 70. of the "Grumbling" Article, signed "One of the Boys".

I hoped to receive an answer to this question before this time.

Please let me know about it at once.

Very truly yours.
J. O. Means.

Some time ago, Mr Morris wrote that life [illegible] would probably under this [illegible]

Oct. 8. 1881.

Mr N. R. Morris

[illegible]

I notice that [illegible] increased from $500. asked last year to $600. asked now. Why is this? Also $50. more is asked for Lady assistant. Is the expense of living such that this additional $50. is absolutely needed?

Mr W. K. Morris: Oct. 6. 1881.

Sisseton Agency. D. T.

My dear Brother:—

A new contract has just been made with the Indian Commissioner for the school at Sisseton. He declines to make a contract for any other station.

It is very important, therefore, that you make sure of the full number of scholars. Also, it is a part of the contract that a man shall teach the Indians farming & the like in the school. This the Com. expect you to do. Please be very careful in doing all that the Government demand, that there may be no occasion for their declining to pay the money.

The mission "estimates" are just received. I notice that "Native Pastor's aid" is increased from $500. asked last year to $600. asked now. Why is this?

Also, $50. more is asked for Lady assistant. Is the expense of living such that this additional $50. is absolutely needed? —

Some time ago, Mr Morris wrote that Miss Thompson would probably undertake this service. I forwarded for her our Manual, that she might, if she wished, make offer of service. I have not heard from her. If she presents suitable testimonials with offer of service, I have no doubt she will be engaged. This however should be attended to at once. If she does not wish to engage with the Board, please let me know at once. There is a teacher ready whom we will have join your Station very soon.

I also notice that "school expenses" are estimated at $500., instead of $150. last year. This does not include $50. asked for "repairs of school house". – Why $500 for "School expenses"?

The Mission ask for a grant for a Girl's boarding school at Efulen. $1800. Your careful & minute estimate is just what we want to see. Your figuring is a total of $1785.01. Blinds & Mouldings are not included. – Have you figured with the utmost economy in your estimates of particulars? Can you keep within the figures you furnish?

I ask these questions for the Prud. Com. will not consider formally the request for a girls school home unless they know how much it will cost when completed ready for occupancy; & know that the amount asked for will honestly & fully complete the building.

Please write me at once & reply to all these questions.

Very truly yours, J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions,
1 Somerset Street, Boston, Oct. 13 1881

Rev. A. L. Riggs,
Santee Agency, Neb.

Please come to St. Louis, if possible.
~~[illegible]~~ Telegraph reply, care
Humphrey, Chicago.

J. O. Means

Telegraphed — $1.60

Nov. 16 / 81.

My dear Dr Riggs,

I thank you for your letters of Nov. 3 & Nov. 7; they do not need any answer as you say, & I was not proposing to do more than acknowledge them. On second thought I will only add a word as to the relations of Mr Robbins & Mr Henry Riggs.

I was not aware that there was any "personal antagonism" between them till I learned it from members of your family. I do not know what it amounts to or what the occasion of it is. Mr Robbins has not made complaints against your son Henry. In my letters to Sivas I have purposely refrained from dwelling on this "grumbling" article. I had been informed - not by him however - that Mr Henry Riggs wrote it. But I made no allusion to that in a few words of encouragement I sent Mr Robbins when he was down east.

I am glad you think "personal antagonism" too strong an expression for this case. I am not sufficiently informed, as I have said, to have an opinion as to that; & I do not come to be supposed, certainly. I most sincerely pray that you will be successful in your endeavors to reconcile such difficulties.

I have written this as I thought possibly you might have an impression that Mr Robbins had been complaining to me. He has not.

Respectfully & very truly yours,
with best wishes for your work & for yourself personally,
J. O. Means
Secy Am Board.

Rev. Dr S. R. Riggs
Beloit, Wis.

Jan. 25, 1881

[illegible] has just reached me. Your explana- [illegible]

[illegible] I have no [illegible] communication. I thank you for forwarding them to [illegible]

Your letter of [illegible] 19 [illegible] morning [illegible] the Com., but without [illegible] quite at once & of my own motion [illegible] matter of your brother Henry.

He had been employed as steward & so employed for several years, without appointment from the Prud. Com. In 1879 the appropriation for the Stewardship at Santee was $550. In 1880 your brother Henry was employed by your brother Alfred, a salary of $750 was given him. Meanwhile your brother Alfred wrote that Henry had a weak [illegible] in his knee & was unable to attend to his duties as would be expected of him, & that

Decr 25. 1881

Rev. Thos. L. Riggs
Ft Sully

My dear brother. Your letter of Nov. 18 has just reached me. Your explanations of the items included in the "$800. for Native Helpers & Schools" seem to me very satisfactory & I have no doubt they will to the Committee. I thank you for forwarding them so promptly.

Your letter of Nov. 19 has also come this morning. I will of course lay it before the Com. but without waiting for their action I write at once & of my own motion to say what I think of the matter of your brother Henry.

He had been engaged as steward & so employed for several years without appointment from the Prud. Com. In 1879 the appropriation for the stewardship at Santee was $550. In 1880 your brother Henry was employed by your brother Alfred, a salary of $750 was paid him. Meanwhile your brother Alfred wrote that Henry had a weak step in his knees & was unable to attend to his duties as would be expected of him, & that outside help had to be called in, for which $175. additional was asked of the Com. The Com. were extremely reluctant to make this grant. They had not appointed Mr Henry Riggs: his brother had employed him: it seemed he was not capable of doing the duties: $175. more was asked for, making the expense of Stewardship $925. for 1880, against $530 in 1879. Finally, your brother Alfred was informed that "in view of the action the Com. had felt compelled to take, of which Dr Clark wrote Dec. 27. 1880, retiring Mr Henry Riggs from his present trust as soon as practicable", the Com. allowed this additional sum of $175. for Mr Henry Riggs.

It was understood & expected, of course, that, as Dr Clark by direction of the Com. had written, Mr Henry Riggs would not be longer employed in the work. You will therefore appreciate the surprise of the Com. when it was found that instead of being retired, Mr Henry Riggs had been continued through the year, & that now he was to be put in a similar position at Fort

Sully: & this while, as you know, things have occurred which certainly did not make it any more proper that he should be receiving pay from the funds of the Board.

|| As to your request & that of Mr Hall, that a family be provided for Ft Sully & for Ft Berthold, as "a home nucleus", no action has yet been taken. The Com. I hope will be able to consider & decide very soon: they are waiting in part for some answers to questions from other Stations. I do not know what the decision will be; but I will say frankly that I am afraid they will not consent to grant these requests. However as yet, this question has not been decided.

But as soon as your letter came, saying that you had engaged Mr Henry Riggs, the Com. considered that at once & directed me to write as I wrote. ||

I am pained to be obliged to say these things about your brother: but it is fair you should know that the Com. have not negatived your request for a family. If they can see their way clear as to the economy of such an arrangement, I think they will make it. But they were very ~~[illegible]~~

decided & positive in disapproving the appointment of Mr Henry Riggs for that position. In view of their past action with regard to him, they were amazed to learn that it was proposed to continue him in the work.

The Com., my dear brother, have certainly aimed to relieve you as far as practicable. They proposed that you should have a rest. They proposed what they regarded & still regard as the most feasible way of dealing with the matter. They hoped you would be relieved by going to Santee; & that Ft Sully would be manned by your brother Alfred. Of course they saw that this would involve inconvenience; but so would any plan, in part on account of others; they proposed what they thought on the whole best. ~~that~~ Dr Clark asked your brother Alfred, at St Louis, if he would go up to Ft Sully & make a home for you & work with you there. This met with no favor from your brother. I do not think, on reflection, you will say the Com. has not desire to do what they can for Ft Sully & for yourself. If you had exchanged with your brother Alfred, or if he would join you at Ft Sully, the Com. would doubtless have granted. You see therefore ~~there~~ it is an honest desire to do the wisest thing which compels the Com. so strongly to disapprove of the proposal about Mr H. M. Riggs. Reciprocating most cordially your kind expressions

I am, very sincerely, Yours. J. O. Means.

[illegible] 188[illegible]

Rev. Mr. S. Riggs,

My dear [illegible]

[illegible] written [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] has just reached me. The explanations of the items included in the "$800 for Native Helpers Schools" seem to me very satisfactory. I have no doubt they will be to the Committee. Thank you for forwarding them so promptly.

The letter of [illegible] has also come to hand. I will of course lay it before the Com. but without waiting for that I write [illegible] & of my own motion [illegible] speak of the matter of your brother Henry. He has been engaged a long time & so employed [illegible] years, without appointment from the Pru. Com. In 1877 the appropriation for the [illegible] of [illegible] was $250. In 1880 [illegible] the [illegible] was employed by your brother [illegible] [illegible] of $750 was paid [illegible] [illegible] while [illegible] other [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] not [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Dec. 6 81

My dear Miss Voorhees:

Your letter of the 28th Nov. was rec'd yesterday. I enclose a check to your order for fifty dollars ($50.) & the Treas. has sent a check to the order of your brother L. B. Voorhees for one hundred dollars $100.— as you request.

Your offer of service as assistant missionary was accepted by the Pru. Com. Oct. 26. 1880, & you were designated to the Dakota Mission. It must have been by some oversight if you have not received official notification of this. Please consider this the notification.

I am surprised ~~that~~ you speak of yourself as working single handed in the Home care & school teaching of the Cottage boys. Are there not eight ladies, besides Miss Paddock? One with Miss Crane at Bird's Nest: Miss Webb & associate at the Home: the housekeeper & Miss Ilsen at the young men's Home: yourself, & Miss Ashley? How is the force distributed? Please give the particulars of all the departments, how each is arranged, & what as you understand are the services each is performing. Evidently, it

Miss J. Lizzie Voorhees
Santee Agency

Secy Am. Board

would seem, with eight ladies, there should be some equalisation of labor. The temporary disability of Miss Shepard & of Miss Paddock may cause some changes, of course, but these, I suppose, will be only temporary. I am glad to learn you have 17 boys. The oldest, you say, is 12 yrs of age. What are the ages of the others? How many, & of what ages, are at the Bird's nest? What is your average number this term? Have you had 17 regularly? Can you tell the average number in the Boys cottage last year? The Catalogue gives 19 as the total enrollment: how many were regularly & continuously in the Cottage?

It is important that you do not get run down by overwork: it is important that you have time & opportunity to learn the language. This latter is as important as any work you can undertake.

May the Lord bless you & your boys by bringing them into His fold!

With best wishes, Very truly yours,
J. O. Means,
Sec'y Am. Board

Miss J. Lizzie Voorhees
Santee Agency.

Dec. 8. 1.

Miss Sophronia B. Pike,
Ft. Berthold, Dak.

My dear Miss Pike:

Your letter, dated Nov. 22nd, and your communication, forwarded to your brother first at Auburn Theological Seminary, reached us this week. I am deeply interested in all that you say about your continued struggles with bodily weakness and external annoyances. I believe that in due time the victory will be given you, - that health and strength will come back, and that you will be able to accomplish the work which you so much desire to do. Do not allow yourself - I am sure you will not allow yourself; - to be troubled by the various annoyances you may find day by day. The course you suggest, of not taking notice of them in any way, is the wise and Christian course. I hope that you will not fail to have pleasant fellowship and Christian communion with your associates, to contribute to their happiness, and to receive from them what they may be able to do for your helpfulness. I have no doubt, as you say, but they really sympathize with you and will make the largest allowances for your various seasons of debility of which you speak. Inasmuch as you have spoken freely of these things to me, of course you will not think it strange that I allude to them.

In regard to the matter of salary for the ladies at Berthold, nothing can wisely be done until the next annual meeting of the Dakota mission. It is evident from all that you say that you need something more than you now have to procure what seems to you most nourishing food. I send you herewith a check for $50. which you are at liberty to use in any way you think best. We here shall charge it, as in like cases, to outfit allowance. If you choose to appropriate it for better, or different, articles of diet, or for anything else which will conduce to your comfort, please do so.

You may be sure that there are many prayers going up for you and your mission work. Beyond all other instruction that you can give to the young Indians, we hope God will bless you in bring many of them to the knowledge and love of Him in Jesus Christ.

Respectfully and most sincerely yours,
J. O. Means

Dec. 21 1

Rev. Thos L. Riggs, Secy Dakota Mission
Fort Sully. D. T.

My dear brother

As you are now Secy of your mission, I communicate to you for the mission the appropriations just made by the Prudential Com. for your mission, & also the action of the Com. upon the matters laid before them at the annual meeting of the mission.

1. The Prudential Committee voted "to take no further action at present in relation to their suggestion of August 23 proposing the exchange of Rev. A. L. and Rev. T. L. Riggs."

2. With regard to "The Memorial of the Dakota Mission in regard to representation at the Annual meeting of the American Board", it was voted "that the Prudential Committee inform the mission that the request that they be invited to send a delegate to the annual meetings of the Board, would not be consistent with the Charter & By laws of the Board".

It probably has escaped your notice that the By laws prescribe who shall be represented at annual meetings. All corporate & all honorary members may be present if they choose. No delegates are invited from any body. Any member of your Mission is as free & has as full an invitation to be present as anybody else. There is no restriction upon attendance. The Prudential Committee has no authority in this matter. If ministers & elders of the Dakota Mission, & if any Indian brethren in the churches or congregations come to the annual meetings, such will be most cordially welcomed.

3. In response to the action of the Mission on Industrial Training, it was voted that "the Secretary inform the Mission that the Prudential Committee do not regard appropriations for industrial training & the mechanic arts as in keeping with the avowed objects & province of the Board; but in view of work on hand, the Committee assent to such appropriations as are needed to continue present labors during the first six months of the coming year"

4. Appropriations for 1882.

It is expected that members of the Prudential Committee & others may arrange to visit the Mission early in 1882. The appropriations are made therefore, subject to revision & modification, if it shall seem needful, before the year closes: the several appropriations for salaries &c. &c., to be at the rate for the whole or any part of the year.

The ~~total~~ appropriation is ~~apparent~~ $17.202.90

(1) For Sisseton $3.350.

The Com. continue the salary of the assistant teacher at $300., as it has been.

The allowance for school expenses is also
~~reduced to $150, the expenses at Fort Berthold.~~
~~[illegible] $150~~

Instead of granting $50. asked for repairs of school house & $250 for repairs & additions on two boarding houses, the sum of $100. is appropriated for repairs on buildings, to be expended where it is most needed.

The Com. make no appropriation ~~apparent~~ for the "Home for girls" for which the Mission ask the $1800. or $2000.-

(2) For Santee Agency the appropriation is $8.992.90

The changes from the Mission estimates are as follows. The salary of A. L. Riggs is continued at $900. as last year. That of J. C. Robbins at $550. as last year. Last year a special grant was made to Rev. A. L. R. of $100. for the education of his son Frederick B. Riggs. The Com. will undoubtedly renew this grant on a formal request from A. L. R., as is necessary in such cases.

Salaries at $350. each for 2 teachers & matron; Miss Haley's salary does not seem to be in the estimates.

Salary of Shoemaker is voted for six months only, $900. The appropriations for the several boarding homes are made the same as last year, in all $2100. instead of $2600. asked for. The Com. consider this a very large appropriation, with the $200. for school incidentals.

For earth closets for Y. M. Hall & Boys Hall $100. is granted, instead of $200. – No appropriation is made for painting Young Men's Hall, & for water pipes, for each of which items $100. is asked.

No appropriation is made for salary of Miss Shepard, 4th quarter of 1882, or for travelling expenses on year's furlough. The Committee have only known her through Mr Riggs who has employed her. Of course, she made no application to them for furlough & they have taken no action & can take no action about it. If she returns in Sept. 1882 & is then appointed by the Com. her salary will be provided for.

The salary of Miss Faxon for a portion of the year 1881 is provided for by an appropriation of $120. Also an appropriation is made of $972.90 for 1881 according to the request of A.L. R. in his letter to Mr Treasurer Ward, of Nov. 3. 1881.

(3) For Fort Sully the appropriation is $3000.–

No appropriation is made at present for the item asked for of $800. for assistance in lieu of an assistant missionary. At all our missions the salary of a married man is counted for himself & wife. If the wife be taken away, the salary is always reduced accordingly. As there has been & is proposed no reduction of Mr Riggs salary, the Com. have understood that the continued salary of $900. was to meet all his household expenses.

(4) For Fort Berthold the appropriation is $1860.

The item asked for of $700. for "Man & wife as Home makers" is not granted: the salary of $900. not being reduced since Mrs Hale's removal & being understood to cover all home expenses. It is the universal rule in our Missions that when the wife is gone, the salary at once falls back to the salary of an unmarried man.

With these explanations, the following statement gives you the appropriations for the Mission for 1882.

Sisseton Agency—

Salaries—	S. R. Riggs $700. W. K. Morris $800	$1500
	Assistant teacher $300	300
	Mrs. Renville 300	300
	Native Pastor's aid	600
	School expenses	150
	Repairs on buildings	100
	Publications	400
		$3.350

Schools—

Young Men's Hall 650. Boy's Cottage $400		1050
1 Dakota Home $400		1050
Earth ... Boy's Cottage		
Additi...		
viz. To furn... West wing of Sch. house	$200	
" balan... Birds Nest $145	365.	
" furnace 74. furnishing account 139	213	
" Cistern, Eaves-trough and pump 165. rep'g well 29.90	$194.90	
" Salary of Shoemaker from Oct 1 to Dec 31	150.	
" " Miss Fayon in 1881	120.	
	$1242.90	
Total	$8992.90	

2 Santee Agency.

Appropriations for 1882 Salaries

A. L. Riggs $900 - J. C. Robbins $550 -	$1,450
Miss Paddock $350 - Miss Webb. 350 -	700
Miss. Voorhees 350 - Miss. Fayon 350	700
Miss. Ilsley 350 - Miss. Brown 350 -	700
Miss. Elican 350 - Miss. Shepards successor 350 -	700
Miss Shea's successor 350. Eli Abraham - teacher 300	650
Teacher of Shoemaking - six months -	300
Native Pastor's aid	150
Expenses of Boarding Schools -	
Young Men's Hall - 650. Boy's Cottage $400	$1,050
Dakota Home $650 - Birds Nest $400	1,050
School incidentals -	200
Earth closets &c. for Y. M. H. and Boy's Cottage.	100
	$7,750.00

Additional for 1881 -

viz. To furnishing and seating West wing of Sch. house.	$200.
" balance on Boy's Cottage $220. On Birds Nest $145 -	365.
" furnace in Y. M. Hall $74. furnishing account 189 -	213.
" Cistern, Eaves-trough and pump 165. rep'g well 29.90 -	$194.90
" Salary of Shoemaker from Oct 1 to Dec 31 -	150.
" " - Miss Fayon in 1881	120.
	$1242.90
Total	$8992.90

3 Fort Sully.

Salaries - T. L. Riggs.	$900
Miss. Collins $350. Miss. Irvine 350	700
Native helpers and Schools:	
S. Hopkins and wife and Elizabeth Winyan	800
Work proposed at Standing Rock	600
	$3000

4 Fort Berthold.

Salaries. C. L. Hall -	$900
Miss. Ward 350 - Miss Pike 350	700
School expenses	150
Mr. Hall's travelling expenses to Devil's Lake	110
	1860

Totals	Sisseton.	$3350.
	Santee	8992.90
	Ft. Sully	3000.
	Ft Berthold -	1860.
		$17.202.90

With best wishes & many prayers for the highest prosperity of the mission & of the missionaries.

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

Your letter of Dec. 16. has this moment come to hand.

Dec. 21 1

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Santee Agency

My dear brother.

I have just transmitted to your brother Rev. Thos. L. R. who I understand is now Secretary of the Mission the appropriations for 1882. The appropriations for Santee you may like to see at once, & they are copied below:-

It is expected that members of the Prudential Committee and others may arrange to visit the Mission early in 1882. The Appropriations are made therefore, subject to revision and modification, if it shall seem needful before the year closes; the several appropriations for salaries &c &c. to be at this rate for the whole or any part of the year.

The changes from the Mission estimates are as follows. The salary of A. L. Riggs is continued at 900 as last year - and that of J. C. Robbins at $550 as last year. Last year a special grant was made to Rev. A. L. R. of $100 for the education of his son Frederick B. Riggs. The Com. will undoubtedly renew this grant on a formal request from A. L. R. as is necessary in such cases.

Salaries at $350 for 9 teachers and matrons: Miss. Ilsley's salary does not seem to be in the Estimates. Salary of shoemaker is voted for six months only $300. The appropriations for the several boarding-houses are made the same as last year, in all $2100. instead of $2800 asked for. The Com. consider this a very large appropriation, with the $200 for school incidentals.

For earth closets for Y. M. Hall and Boys Hall $100 is granted instead of $200. No appropriation is made for painting Y. M. Hall, and for water pipes &c. for which of each items $100 is asked. No appropriation is made for salary of Miss. Shepard - 4th quarter of 1882 - or for travelling expenses on year's furlough - The Com. have only known her through Mr Riggs, who has employed her. Of course, she made no application to them for furlough - and they have taken no action and can take no action about it. If she returns in Sept. 1882, - and is then appointed by the Com. her salary will be provided for. The salary of Miss. Gayon for a portion of the year 1881 is provided for - by an appropriation of $120. Also, an appropriation is made of $972.90 for 1881 - according to the request of A. L. R. in his letter to Mr. Treasurer Ward of Nov. 3rd. 1881.

Appropriations for Santee Agency. 1882 - Salaries.

A. L. Riggs. $900 - J. C. Robbins. $550 - Miss. Paddock. $350 -	$1,800
Miss. Webb - $350 - Miss. Voorhees - $350 - Miss. Fayon - $350 -	1,050
Miss. Ilsley - $350 - Miss Brown - $350 - Miss. Gleason - $350.	1,050
Miss. Shepard's successor - $350 - Miss. Shea's successor - $350	.700
Eli Abraham - teacher - $300 Teacher of shoemaking 6 m. $300	.600
Native Pastors aid -	.150
Expenses of Boarding schools.	
Young Men's Hall $650 Boy's College $400	$1,050
Dakota Home 650 Birds Nest $400	1,050
School incidentals	200
Earth closets &c for Y. M. H. and Boy's Cottage .	100
	$7,750

Additional for 1881.

Viz. To furnishing and seats - West wing of sch. house	$200
" balance on Boy's Cottage $220 On Birds Nest 145 -	.365
" furnace in Y. M. Hall $74. furnishing acct 139 -	213
" Cistern, eaves, trough and pumps 165. repairing well 27.90 -	$194.90
Salary of shoemaker from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	$150
" " Miss Fayon for 1881	$121.
	$1242.90
Total	8992.90.

In your letter of Sept. 13. you stated that a lady from Cedar Rapids was expected in Miss Skea's place. Did she come?

As to Miss Shepard, the Com. was not willing to make the grant as presented in the estimates from the Mission, & for the reason that she was not under appointment but only in your employment.

Did you, after receiving my letter about her, advance some money as I suggested? If so, please let me know how much & I can arrange for this. Also please give me her present address, & I will write her & see what more should be done.

The Finance Com. are very glad to know that the bills on the houses & for the furnishings were all paid & that the amounts you had indicated will make the deficiency good. It was supposed that you kept receipts for payments & that it would be a very simple thing to forward them as vouchers.

I am interested about your report of the scholars from Ft Berthold. What are their ages & what is their proficiency? Can the clothing, like that at Ft Berthold be drawn in their behalf, to a certain extent, in place of that you have provided for them at Santee?

Please give my Xmas & New Year's greetings to Mrs Riggs & your children. — Very truly yours. J. O. Means
Sec.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Congregational House, 1 Somerset Street, Dec. 21

Rev. Dr S. R. Riggs.

Sisseton Agency.

My dear brother.

I have just transmitted to Rev. Thos S. Riggs, Sec'y Dakota Mission, the appropriations for 1882. The appropriations for Sisseton you may like to see at once, & they are copied below:-

"It is expected that members of the Prudential Committee and others may arrange to visit the mission early in 1882, the appropriations are made therefore, subject to revision and modification, if it shall seem needful before the year closes. the several appropriations for salaries &c. &c. to be at this rate for the whole or any part of the year.

The Com. continue the salary of the assistant teacher at $300 as it has been. The allowance for school expenses is reduced to $150, which is the same as is asked and granted for Fort Berthold and Fort Sully, where the average number of scholars, last year, was nearly twice as great as at Sisseton. instead of granting $50 asked for repairs of school-house and $250 for repairs and additions on two boarding-houses, the sum of $100 is appropriated for repairs on buildings, to be expended where it is most needed.

The Com. make no appropriation at present for the "Home for Girls" for which the Mission ask the $1800 or $2000.

Appropriation for Sisseton Agency D.T. 1882.

Salaries.

S. R. Riggs $700 - W. K. Morris $800	$1500
Assistant teacher - $300 Mrs. Renville $300	600
Native Pastor's aid.	600
School expenses $150 - Repairs on buildings $100	250
Publications	400
	$3.350 "

As this letter is for the information of all at Sisseton, I direct it there, though I suppose Dr Riggs may be at Carlisle, as he was ~~there~~ when I last heard from him

Very respectfully & truly.

J. O. Means.

Secy.

Dec. 21 1

Rev. Chas L. Hall.
Fort Berthold. D.T.

My dear brother.

I have just transmitted to Rev. Thos L. Riggs, Secy of the Mission, the appropriations for 1882. The appropriations for Ft Berthold you may like to see at once, & they are copied below:-

"It is expected that members of the Prudential Committee and others may arrange to visit the mission early in 1882. The appropriations are made, therefore, sub- to revision and modification, if it shall seem needful before the year closes: the several appropriations for salaries &c. &c. to be at this rate for the whole or any part of the year.

The item asked for of $700 for Mand and wife as "Home nucleus" is not granted, the salary of $900 not being reduced - since Mrs Hale's removal, and being understood to cover all home expenses.

It is the universal rule in our missions that when the wife is gone, the salary at once falls back to the salary of an unmarried man

Appropriations for Fort Berthold 1882

Salaries	
C. L. Hall	$900
Miss Ward	350
" Pike	350
School expenses	150
Mr. Hall's travelling expenses to Devil's Lake	110
	$1860"

Rev. A. L. Riggs wrote Nov. 17 that one girl, 4 boys & 2 young men had reached Santee from Ft Berthold. As our Santee school was designed for a Normal & Training School for teachers & preachers, it is greatly to be desired that scholars, after they have been taught as thoroughly as they can be at your home schools, should be sent to Santee for advanced training. Of course, young scholars should be taught in the Station School: only those sent away who are beyond your school. I am glad to learn that so little expense was incurred in the transportation of the scholars. Mr Riggs says that as they came before the gov't had issued clothing, they came in blankets

& that clothing had to be procured for them at Santee. Is it possible to draw this clothing & have it forwarded to Santee, if need be to replace what has been supplied them there?

I trust you are having a good season of spiritual work. It must be very encouraging to have these young Christians come back from Hampton. May the Lord give you many souls this year!

We think of you these thanksgiving & Christmas & New Years days. Your desolation must be very hard to bear as the home-festivals return, & she is not! The Lord comfort your sorrowing heart!

With best wishes to you all at Ft Berthold, for Xmas & New Years & the months to come.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Means.
Secy.

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

My dear Dr. Riggs,

Your letter of September 9th has been received, and laid before the Prudential Committee at the earliest moment practicable, that as you request you may receive a reply by October 1. I direct this to Santee agency, as you may be attending the meeting there.

I take great pleasure in communicating to you the following minute by vote of the Committee.

1. " In accordance with the request of Rev. S. R. Riggs, LL. D, in his communication of Sept. 9th, and for the reasons therein given, the Prudential Committee 'sanction his residing in Beloit in the winter, and doing such work connected with the Dakota Mission as he can do there, while visiting and helping forward the Dakota churches in the summer.'

2. With regard to the publications described in the same communication, the Committee repeat substantially what was said in the letter written to Dr. Riggs, July 18

& that clothing had to be procured in
the Eastern States. Is it possible to draw
this clothing & have it [illegible],
A [illegible] – [illegible]

(1) A portion of these publications, designed for use in mission schools, seems legitimate to mission work. Dr. Riggs thinks the expense of this portion can be met from the usual annual appropriations for mission publications. It is hoped it may be. If, however, it can not be so met, the Committee desire that a special estimate for this be made in connection with the other annual estimates for this year, and due consideration shall be given the matter.

(2) There is another portion of the publication which seems likely to be of value as a contribution to Ethnology and Indian Folk lore while it seems to have remote and vague relation to legitimate mission work. The U. S. Government, it is said, have desired this publication to be prepared and printed, and are to own the copy right. Besides furnishing the letter press material, our missionaries are to supervise the printing of the volume, involving additional expense. The Pru-

dential Committee, under existing circumstances, interpose no objection, and consent to Dr. S. R. Riggs's devoting such farther time and labor to the publication, at Washington or elsewhere, as he wishes to do, and on such terms as he may arrange with the Government. The Committee do not wish Dr. Riggs to 'turn over to the Board' the copies of the publication which he says "the Government propose to give' our missionaries."

Very respectfully and truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

Rev. S. R. Riggs, LL. D.

Please let me know who is responsible for the appearance in the "Word Carrier" for September p. 70 of the "Gambling" article, signed One of the Boys.

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Sept. 28 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency
My dear brother:-

I have just forwarded a letter to your care for your father. Please forward it if he has left you.

Miss Paddock writes that she needs to go home for six weeks or two months. I understood from your letter that you expected this. Her salary, I think, might go to the one who takes her place, if some outsider takes it.

Please let me know who is responsible for the appearance in the "Word Carrier" for September p70 of the "Gambling" article, signed One of the Boys.

Very truly yours.
J. O. Means.

Sept. 28 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs
Santee Agency

My dear brother:

I have just forwarded a letter to your care for your father. Please forward it if he has left you.

Miss Paddock writes that she needs to go home for six weeks or two months. I understand from your letter that you expected this. Her salary, I think, might go to the one who takes her place, if some outsider takes it.

Please let me know who is responsible for the appearance in the "Word Carrier" for September, p. 70 of the "Grumbling" article, signed "One of the Boys".

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Sept. 23

My dear Miss Paddock:

Your letter of the 19th has just reached me. I am sorry to hear of your continued weakness. The judgment of the mission should be taken with regard to your absence. If the mission think it needful we can approve their decision.

I forward you a check for one hundred & fifty dollars as your outfit allowance, which you have not had since your appointment.

While you are absent, your salary, I think, should go to whoever takes your place; unless some one at the station already receiving salary undertakes your duties in your behalf for the time being.

[illegible]

[illegible] rapidly [illegible] more [illegible] Spirit [illegible]

Miss [illegible]

Sept. 23

My dear Miss Paddock:

Your letter of the 19th has just reached me.

I am sorry to hear of your continued weakness. The judgment of the mission should be taken with regard to your absence. If the mission think it needful we shall approve their decision.

I forward to you a check for One Hundred & fifty dollars as your outfit allowance, which you have not had since your appointment.

While you are absent, your salary, I think, should go to whoever takes your place: unless some one at the station already receiving salary undertakes your duties in your behalf, for the time being.

With best wishes to yourself, & hoping you may recuperate rapidly & return soon to your work refreshed in body & spirit,

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Means.

Miss Martha M. Paddock.
Santee Agency,
Neb.

Sept. 23

My dear Miss Paddock:

Your letter of the 19th has just reached me.

I am sorry to hear of your continued weakness. The judgment of the mission should be taken with regard to your absence. If the mission think it needful we shall approve their decision.

I forward to you a check for One Hundred & fifty dollars as your outfit allowance, which you have not had since your appointment.

While you are absent, your salary, I think, should go to whoever takes your place: unless some one at the station already receiving salary undertakes your duties in your behalf, for the time being.

With best wishes to yourself, & hoping you may recuperate rapidly & return soon to your work refreshed in body & spirit,

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Means.

Miss Martha M. Paddock.
Santee Agency.
Neb.

Oct. 5. 1881

Mr Jno. C. Robbins,
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear Mr Robbins:

I thank you for your letter of Sept. 28. It contained just such information as we need. Please write freely & keep us acquainted with all these most important matters.

I have not yet received the minutes of the Mission meeting, & have been waiting for this official statement. After it comes it will be decided what changes to make at Santee. Some changes seem clearly indispensable.

We are extremely gratified with all we learn about your work the year past, & are quite sure you are in the right place. You need not fear that you will suffer from such "grumbling" as appeared in the Word Carrier for Sept. Everyone here noticed the article at once, & I wrote to Rev. A. L. Riggs to learn who was responsible for the nization spirit in the paper. The first thing is to know this, & then such action will be taken in the premises as this publication plainly demands. You & your associates who are named in that article can afford to wait in patience.

We cannot spare you from Sitka. There is a great work opening for you among the Indians, I believe, & you are now but entering upon it & preparing for the future. Hold on. Keep in good heart. Study the language. Do the best work you can in your present position. Bear patiently any temporary discomforts & annoyances & misinterpretations. You do not suffer & will not, you gain in the esteem of those whose esteem is worth having.

It does not seem to me wise for you to think of studying to be a missionary physician. There are special disadvantages you would find it difficult to overcome. You can be a more useful & happy man as a teacher, I believe.

than as a physician. Oct. 31, 1.

I will not go into this question now; for I am sure you will find enough to busy you at present in your work at Santee.

My letter to Mr Riggs asking who was responsible for inserting "Something", was written Sept. 23. as yet no answer has come.

I hope you are doing a Home and a Circle, with Miss Sawyer in charge, to the satisfaction of you all.

With kind wishes to you all.

Very truly yours.

J. O. Means.

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and generous contri[illegible] were deeply grieved. It was not easy to [illegible] the older missionaries who are the editors could publish in the mission paper a communication lampooning their younger associates. It seemed more painful from the fact that those who were ridiculed before their scholars and before the general public and whose feelings were cruelly wounded were, a young lady whose sex should have shielded her and a young missionary belonging to a despised race whose accidental birth-stain must ever make him keenly sensitive to sarcasm.

Oct. 31, 1.

My dear Dr. Riggs:

The "Word Carrier" for October, containing "A card" by the editors about the "Grumbling" communication in the September number, has just reached us.

That communication made a very painful impression here as doubtless you are aware it did at the Santee Agency.

Several persons, interested in our Indian work, called our attention to it and inquired what it meant. Friends of one of the missionaries assailed, some of whom are life long friends of the Board and generous contributors to our funds, were deeply grieved. It was not easy to explain how the older missionaries who are the editors could publish in the mission paper a communication lampooning their younger associates. It seemed more painful from the fact that those who were ridiculed before their scholars and before the general public and whose feelings were cruelly wounded were, a young lady whose sex should have shielded her and a young missionary belonging to a despised race whose accidental birth-stain must ever make him keenly sensitive to sarcasm.

Your son Alfred, in reply to my inquiry, wrote "My father has charge of the English part of the paper in the main, and it was he who is responsible for admitting the article mentioned. But this should be borne in mind that he knew nothing "of the personal antagonism between" the author and Mrs. Robbins, who is most offended by the article. Had he known anything of this, he never would have admitted it. The next number will make the best amends possible for the unfortunate and painful mistake".

The "card" does not recognize that an unfortunate and painful mistake has been made, and for which amends are due. It expresses no regret and contains no apology. It implies that no one ought to "have found more in the article than good natured criticism."

Dear Dr. Riggs, we are constrained to say, painful as it is to say it, that it seems to us self respect and respect to our constituency, no less than justice to the injured, require something more and different.

If "one of the boys" had written this communication, the publication of it in the mission paper must inevitably lower the tone of discipline in the schools and make the teachers appear contemptible.

Now it is known that none of the "boys"—to their credit be it said—had a hand in this scurrilous communication, but that the author was one who had "a personal antagonism" to Mrs Robbins. You surely cannot mean to let the matter rest where this card leaves it.

Of course, the associate missionaries at Santee cannot be expected nor asked to remain, nor can others be secured for our Indian work, if it is known that those who prove "zealous teachers" "may always expect this good natured criticism" in the mission paper.

Respectfully & very truly yours,

J. O. Means

Sec'y Am. Board.

Rev S. R. Riggs, LL.D.
Beloit, Wis.

Nov. 4. 1881.

My dear Miss Pike,

Your letter of Oct. 29th reached me in due time. I thank you for writing so fully your past experiences & perplexities, & for your account of things in our Mission, as they seem from your point of view. It has grieved & distressed me to know that you have been passing through such inward & outward struggles. I am rejoiced ~~that~~, as appears & as I trust, you have now come out into a wide place, where you can live serenely & work hopefully as a Missionary of the Lord to the ignorant benighted Indians.

Your information of what have been evils in the management of affairs tallies exactly with information received from others. Undoubtedly, those who seem responsible for these evils have been utterly unconscious of the facts. As they are devoted Christian men, we can believe that when they learn, as they are in the way of learning, what needs amendment, so far as depends upon them, there will be a change.

The statement you make of what you suppose to be the position of the ladies & of other missionaries who are not ordained ministers in our missions is a true statement of what the Board & the Prudential Committee by the rules understand to be the position; & what may be necessary will be done in any case to make this position secure. Ordained ministers are styled "missionaries": all others under appointment, physicians, men or women, teachers, men or women, are all styled "assistant missionaries". This does not mean that the latter have any inferiority to the former, or are subordinate to them, or are under their direction & control in any particular. There is no subordination or control of one by another, no matter what the title or the sex. There is no "Head" of any mission or of any station, except as the Prudential Com. may be a kind of head. Age or seniority, or ministerial functions, much less sex, does not set one over another. The missionaries & the assistant missionaries are absolutely on an equality. In all matters of common interest there is the full & free consultation. The mission or the members of a station distribute the work among themselves: & then each does his or her portion as he or she thinks best. When there are matters of large concern touching general interests of a mission, & it is necessary to take votes, the male members of the mission are the voters. But these questions are comparatively few. If the men by their votes refuse to allow the female missionaries to do what they think best, in their own departments — which is scarcely to be thought of — the women can appeal to the Prudential Com. who will decide in such cases.

The position you have taken, you say, is this, in your own mind: "The ladies of the mission are in no sense servants or employees of the gentlemen at the head. We are not responsible to them, & are to be governed by their judgment, will, or wishes, only so far as is consistent with our own sense of right. We are working not under them but with them. We, like them, are called of God to engage in his work in this special field. — They with us are engaged in a common cause. The success of each is the success of the whole. There should be full & frequent conference in the mission.

This is the simple a. b. c. of the relations of missionaries & if any have failed in this direction, it has doubtless been unconsciously & inadvertently, & the moment the fact is suggested due correction will be made. Of course, when a new missionary enters a field, she will wish to have hints & helps from the older missionaries. She will naturally & mentally defer to the judgment of those of experience.

I understand that now you are acting in this method, & I trust you will find all things working well. Some of your difficulties grow out of the fact that unmarried ladies generally need to live in the families of married missionaries. This is merely matter of convenience & choice. The unmarried ladies may, according to circumstances, club together & live by themselves, or obtain board in mission families or elsewhere. They are in some way to pay their board, in money, or otherwise. Boarding in a family, the lady may say "I will do this, & that, as part payment, & give so much money, for my board." It may save misunderstandings in all cases to have a clear, distinct understanding before hand as to the matter of boarding; what the price is to be, & how paid. Then, I suppose, a warm hearted Christian lady is always likely ready to do many things in a family in which she is living from sympathy & love, which cannot be purchased nor paid for by any money consideration.

It is of great importance that missionaries do not give themselves to any such personal domestic duties as hinder them from the most effective spiritual work. You go out primarily, as missionaries to the Indians. You must take solid time to study the language & learn all about the Indians & how to reach them. For new missionaries, the private study of the language is as essential as any service they can undertake. You are to teach, to visit among them, in every way to be helpful to them, keeping in view as the one thing, their conversion to God & their growth in the knowledge & love of God. But in all this, the hours you devote to hard study to master the language are as religiously employed as any hours of the day & night.

Nov. 9. 1881

My dear Miss Pike, I trust you are to have better health, better spirits, more cheerfulness & more spiritual, inward peace & more constant consciousness of your Saviour's presence with you, than you have ever had. I trust you are to get command of the language & of the respect & affections of the Indians, & to get a thorough knowledge of the way to labor & live among them so as to bring them to Christ.

Do not fail to remember all our missions & all our missionaries & all who are working at this end of the line, in your prayers: as we plead for you. Dr Alden told me that after reading your letter, he awoke in the night thinking about you & praying for you. Write me as often as you have anything you would say, & speak as you have, fully & frankly.

Remember me most kindly to Mr Hall & Mrs Hall. A great blessing be upon you all!

Very sincerely yours, J. O. Means

Sec Am. Board

Miss [illegible] B. Pike
Fort Berthold.

Nov. 9. 1881.

Rev. Thos L. Riggs.
Ft Sully, Dakota Mission

My dear brother:-

I thank you for your letters of Oct. 27. & Oct. 28, received last week.

As your proposed arrangement with regard to your brother Henry demanded immediate attention, your letter of the 27th was laid before the Prudential Committee yesterday, leaving other matters to be attended to hereafter.

I am obliged to say, by direction of the Committee, "that the Prud. Com. wholly disapprove of the proposed arrangement of which you write, to have Mr Henry Riggs employed in connection with our work at Ft Sully, & that no expenditure of mission funds will be allowed for that arrangement."

The Com. have proposed what they regard as the best arrangement for Ft Sully & the Santee. All that was presented on the other side had been duly considered by the Com.: at your mission meeting, it seems to have been supposed that the Com. had overlooked these things. They had not.

But I will not speak of this matter now. ((As soon as the pressure of business connected with the annual appropriations is over, the Committee will take such action about all this as in their judgment is wisest & best.

You know of course that Mr & Mrs Foster were at ~~the camp~~ St. Louis, & Mr Greenleaf Clark. I hope your boy is in good health & spirits.))

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Sec'y Am. Board.

Nov. 12 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs,

Santee Agency.

My dear Brother

The Committee on appropriations desire more full information with respect to the items included in the estimates forwarded from Santee for "Young men's Hall $700; [illegible] Addition $700; Bird's nest [illegible]; Cottage $600; School [illegible] $20."

We suppose that [illegible] Morris reports that he does [illegible] rations & clothing from the [illegible] now from the Agency. Please give the particulars which go to make up the various sums named.

Very truly yours

J. O. Means.

Sec'y.

Nov. 12 81

Rev. Thos. L. Riggs,

[illegible] Sully

My dear Brother

[illegible] you [illegible] specially to make [illegible] of the Committee on appropriations. They are working upon the estimates. [illegible] the particulars of [illegible] helpers & schools [illegible] native [illegible] given to [illegible] is [illegible] $600. is for [illegible] what are [illegible] expenses? [illegible] me. I [illegible] you in [illegible]

Very truly yours.

J. O. Means.

Sec'y

Nov. 12 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs:
Santee Agency.

My dear brother:

The Committee on appropriations desire me to obtain information with respect to the items included in the estimates forwarded from Santee for:- "Young men's Hall $700; Dakota Home $700; Bird's nest $600; Boys Cottage, $600; School incidentals, $200." -

We suppose that you, as Mr Morris reports that he does, draw rations & clothing for the Indians from the Agency. Please give the particulars which go to make up the various sums named.

Very truly yours
J. O. Means.
Secy.

Nov. 12 81

Rev. Thos. L. Riggs:
Fort Sully

My dear brother:

I write you now specially to make some inquiries in behalf of the Committee on appropriations. They are working upon the estimates. They ask for the particulars of the item "Native helpers & schools, $800." - Who are the native helpers? How much is given to each? How much service is rendered?

What part of the $800. is for school expenses? What are the items of the expenses?

The Com. ask me. I must ask you in turn.

Very truly yours
J. O. Means.
Secy

Nov. 12. 1881

Mr W. K. Morris:
Sisseton Agency.

My dear Mr Morris.

I thank you for your letter of Oct. 13.

I regret very much that Miss Thompson does not forward testimonials, & that she has been engaged temporarily though she does not propose to remain out a year. If, when you learned that she did not propose to make a permanent arrangement & forward testimonials, you had informed me, a lady would have gone out at once under appointment of the Com. We had one ready. Now, please let me know the term for which Miss T. is engaged. 'Tis not desirable to break in upon a term; but there should be no engagement made with her extending beyond spring.

In looking over the estimates our Com. is still desirous of knowing more about "$300. for School Expenses". We furnish School teachers. You say in your report that you go to the

Agency they seek also to draw rations for the children & clothing. You report an average during the year of about 20 scholars. What are the specific items which you charge in your accounts to "School Expenses". Will you please give the particulars for the satisfaction of the Committee.

I thank you for the careful enumeration of particulars with regard to the "Home for Girls". The matter is under consideration.

But this is noticed by the Committee. The number of scholars you are able to secure, or that are not provided for in the other schools is very small. Your report says in Oct. 1880 you "began with 7. & had an average of 5. In Nov. 26. average 10. December the same 26. average 21. The first quarter of 1881 about the same. Of the latter quarter, 30, average 15. Of these some have staid but a short time & a larger number than usual are day scholars."

The buildings for these are reported as a school house 20 X 36, & two boarding houses, one 16 X 24, another 17 X 24.

Have you not already much larger accomodations than are necessary for the number of scholars?

As the Committee is now at work upon the appropriations, the sooner you are able to give this information the better it will be. With so many demands from the various missions all around the globe, all asking for advances, it is not easy nor pleasant duty that is laid upon the Com. Sacred trust funds, gifts of the widow & orphan, must be expended only for objects for which there is the clearest necessity, & the expenditure of every dollar must be looked after.

I hope you are having a good term of school now. I informed you previously of the condition in the gov't contract, that "one of the teachers shall be a man competent to instruct the boys in the use of farm, garden & mechanical tools: he also agrees to furnish the pupils with necessary books, stationary & school appliances."

With best wishes Very truly yours,

J. O. Means

Sec'y

Nov. 25 81

Hon. H. Price
Com. of Indian Affairs. &c. &c.
Washington. D.C.

My dear Sir. - In reply to your inquiries in your letter of the 23d inst. this day received, I will say

1. That our Indian Missions, at present, are among the Dakota's. We occupy four Stations: Santee Agency, Sisseton, Fort Sully, & Fort Berthold. From these points our Missionaries also go into other regions among wilder Indians.

2. The amount actually expended from Sept. 1. 1880 to Sept. 1. 1881 was $20.025.00.

3. It is not easy just now to distribute this amount, to Stations, & in Stations, to the Educational & to the religious work. Of $17.855, however, I can say that $9.145 ~~of which~~ was expended at Santee Agency; of this, $900. should be charged to the ~~distinctively~~ religious. $8.245 to the Educational work. There is but one church, with an Indian Pastor, or teacher. There are four male & 8 female teachers including the matrons in charge of the

four homes where domestic industrial training is given. — I will say that this sum includes salaries of teachers & running expenses of the four homes & schools. Within the last two years, in addition to the $9.145 there has been expended at Santee Agency on Workshops & Halls for Young men, for Boys & for Girls, $8845. — all for educational purposes. — (2) $3850 was expended at Sisseton, where have been one male & two female teachers (I only refer throughout to Americans): There are six Churches with Indian Pastors. $1550 should be charged to the distinctly religious, $2300 to the Educational work. (3) at Fort Sully, of $2860 expended, $1160 was for the religious, & $1700 for the educational work. There are two female teachers, with a minister superintending & assisting. (4) at Fort Berthold, of $2000 expended, $1040 should be charged to the religious & $960 to the Educational work. — The remaining sum for this year, of $2.170, is to be apportioned to these four stations & to the two kinds of work. It will ~~and~~ involve great labor in looking up the items, & I trust the foregoing will answer your purpose.

Respectfully yours,

J. O. Means

Secy Am. Board.

Dec. 22 81

Genl E. Whittlesey
Board of Indian Commissioners
Washington

My dear General:

Yours of the 19th was recd yesterday. Two copies of your report have been sent for your use. I thank you for the invitation to attend the annual meeting Jany 12. 1882. I will make my arrangements to be present, & unless something now unknown shall prevent, I will go to Washington for this purpose.

With a Merrie Christmas & a happy new year to Mrs W. & the children.

Sincerely yours,

J. O. Means.

Dec. 22 81

Rev. Thos L. Riggs:
Ft Sully. D.T.

My dear brother.

Your letter of Dec. 16. reached me just as I was despatching the Mission letter to you as Secretary on the annual appropriations.

I will again repeat the assurance that the Com. most earnestly desire to send another missionary family to Ft Sully & will do so as soon as suitable persons can be found.

When these are found I may perhaps recur to a sentence in your letter where you spoke about Santee & said ~~that~~ if you ever went there, you "should go as a king having full control". I will not dwell upon this point now, except to say that each one of our missionaries ~~& assistant~~ missionaries is a King or a queen: ~~that~~ no one is superior in authority & power, in mission: & that being Kings & queens, matters of common concern have to be arranged by mutual agreement. In our missions the world over, at every station, the missionaries & the assistant missionaries are on a footing of perfect equality of honor & dignity & power. There is no superintendent & no control of one by another. All consult together & agree upon what shall be done & the way of doing it. At [illegible] or [illegible], I trust & believe you would be a wise King & follow constitutional methods, & that the assistant missionaries with their rights & duties as queens would not tyrannize over you in small or great matters.

Seriously, you know of course that each missionary & assistant missionary is responsible & subject so far as there is subjection, only to the Am. Board through the Prudential Committee, & not to any other fellow missionary; only to love one another & do good as there is opportunity.

I saw Greenleaf Clark at the Cong. Club festival Tuesday evening. In all your loneliness of bereavements, may you have a pleasant Christmas & new year.

Please give my greetings to the Deacon also to the queen missionaries.

Sincerely yours J. O. Means.

Miss Sophronia B. Pike, Dec. 22 81
Ft Berthold.

My dear Miss Pike.

Your letter of ~~Dec. 5~~ Nov. 22 with ~~the~~ enclosures, came to hand Dec. 5. And yours of Dec. 5. reached me last week. I am very glad that, as you say, matters are settling down into a better form. May this be a propitious season for new & onward movements at all our mission stations.

As to your letter to Rev. A. L. Riggs, which Mr Hall, you say, thought you had better not send, of course, when you reflect upon it you will see it would be improper for me to send. Therefore it remains as it is, not forwarded.

I sympathize tenderly with you & with your associates. May health & strength be given to you all, & with united prayers & united counsels & united efforts, great things may be accomplished at Ft Berthold "in the name of the Holy Child Jesus."

Please accept for yourself & present to

Miss Nash & to Mr Hall my most cordial good wishes & greetings for Christmas & new year.

Many prayers are going up for a great blessing from above upon our Indian work.

Sincerely yours.

J. O. Means.
Secy.

Dec. 22 '81

Miss M. A. Shepard.
Scytheville, N.H.

Dear Miss Shepard.

I hoped to have a call from you, after receiving your note of Dec 17; but suppose you could not make it convenient to call on your way through Boston.

I am glad you are already feeling the benefit of your recess & hope you will shortly be fully restored.

Will it not be convenient for you before very long to visit Boston? I should like very much to have a long conference with you. If you come to Boston, please write me in advance the day, not [illegible]

Miss [illegible] that Christmas & New Year greetings

Truly yours.

J. O. Means.
Secy. Am. Board.

Dec. 22 81

Miss M. A. Shepard.
Scytheville, N.H.

Dear Miss Shepard.

I hoped to have a call from you, after receiving your note of Dec. 17; but suppose you could not make it convenient to call on your way through Boston.

I am glad you are already feeling the benefit of your recess, & hope you will shortly be fully restored.

Will it not be convenient for you before very long to visit Boston? I should like very much to have a long conference with you. If you come to Boston, please write me in advance, that I may not miss seeing you.

With Christmas & New Year greetings,

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.
Sec'y Am. Board.

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home this autumn & winter; have

better attended than they have been. I suppose Miss Shepard is in this neighborhood, & I hope she will call at our rooms.

Do you know anything about the government schools & about the Episcopal schools? Have they many attendants? Do you ladies visit them & have neighborly intercourse with

Dec. 23 81

Miss Susan Webb.
Santee Agency, Neb.

My dear Miss Webb.

I was glad to receive your letter of Dec. 4, & only wish you had given more particulars of your work since your return. Your father told me some things I had not known. As to your health, I am distressed at what you say, but hope it will prove ~~that~~ by care & the avoidance of overworking, you will regain your former strength & elasticity. Please tell me particularly all about the Dakota home this Autumn & winter; how many scholars there are, & what ~~the~~ ages of the scholars are & what their proficiency is. Scarcely any intelligence from Santee has reached me of late. The intimations are ~~that~~ the schools are better attended than they have been. I suppose Miss Shepard is in this neighborhood, & hope she will call at our rooms.

Do you know anything about the government schools, & about the Episcopal Schools? Have they many attendants? Do you ladies visit them & have neighborly intercourse with others who are also laboring for the Indians?

"In your patience possess ye your souls," our Lord said to his first disciples; & I think He continues to say it to all of us. Many things in our Christian endeavors do not result as we should like to have them. There are misunderstandings that try your faith. In some positions, the discipline takes one form; in other positions, other forms. We only need to be prayerfully intent on doing the perfect will of God & His glory, as far as we may: & that pleases Him;

It is a blessed privilege thus given us of trying to do something to enlighten the ignorant & elevate the degraded, & to fill with love to our blessed & adorable Saviour hearts which naturally are filled with evil. May He [illegible] help you, in endeavors.

Please accept for [illegible] & your associates [illegible] [illegible] for Christmas & New Years. May the God of all grace abide with you in His [illegible].

Sincerely your friend.

J. O. Means.

Dec. 23 81

Miss Ruth A. Faxon.

Santee Agency. D. T.

My dear Miss Faxon.

Your letter of Oct. 13 came while I was absent, & on my return I was glad that you could speak with such enthusiastic satisfaction of the things about you. In due time, I trust, your household goods & what you needed for the "club" reached you safely.

As to your employment of Indian girls, or others, of course must be decided in free conference with the others. I hope it is not the case, as you say that you "really have no part in what seems to be real mission work". I am sure you have found much work that needed to be done: enough to exhaust your energies. - Please write me in detail how you are occupied: how many you look after: how the work is distributed among you in the Home: & what results appear. That you mean to study the language does not surprise me. Certainly I should wish to, & master enough to communicate directly with the

Indians. One cannot do the best work among them without being able to talk to them without aid of a third person.

Do you visit the other schools? Do you acquaint yourself with the general work of the whole station, & of the government work & that of your Episcopal brethren? When are their vacations in the schools, & what is done in these seasons?

We are now close upon our Christmas & New Years observances. As one year is closing & another is opening every child of God, I suppose, looks back & forward. We hope every year will show positive advances in our Indian evangelisation. Santee was intended to be the training place for Indian teachers & preachers. These are greatly needed: the evangelisation of the heathen Indians must be through the converted Indians, & they need to be educated for this work. We hope, above all, that God in His mercy will pour out His holy Spirit, to quicken the life of believers & to bring unbelievers to faith & repentance. — With best wishes to yourself & to the ladies all, Very truly yrs. J. O. Means.

Dec. 24 81

Rev. A. L. Riggs, Santee Agency.

My dear brother.

I am just able to write definitely about the young student of whom you spoke in your letter of Nov. 29. Chas A. Eastman. - There seemed uncertainty as to whether the Fund at the disposal of Dartmouth College could be used as desired. - Now. I am authorised to say that he can be sent to Hanover, or to Meriden Academy, as you judge best: his travelling expenses can also be paid. If you can advance the money I will be responsible for your repayment. The fund is one constituted many years ago, in Scotland, & it is a pity that it should not be used, as it may be wisely.

Have you spare copies of the "Woonspe Wankantu"? On our files are Catalogues of 1881, 1880, 1879 - none earlier. Can you furnish them from as early date as any were printed?

Can you give me, from your records, the names of the Indian teachers who have graduated from the Normal Department, & state how long each one was under this instruction, & how & where since employed?

Can you also give the names of Indian ministers, pastors & licentiates, who have graduated at the Theol Department, or had Theol. training at Santee, & state how long each one was under instruction & where since employed?

In the Miss. Herald of July, 1878 it is said: "The Mission of the Presb. Board sends its advanced pupils here [Santee] & supports them". Up to what date did they pay for the students, & at what rate? _ In 1879-1880 the Woonspe Wankantu reports 7 scholars from Presb. Stations. Their Report of the For. Miss. Board for 1881. p10. reports 6: it is the same year, I suppose. _ In 1880-1881, the W.W. reports 13 scholars from the Presb. Stations. As the running expenses of the schools at Santee for 1880-1881, including salaries of teachers & matrons & school expenses, average over $90. each pupil, the Presb. Board might properly reimburse us for that year to the amount of $1170.-

The Presbyterian Assembly Minutes report from our Dakota Mission Churches contributions for Foreign Missions, in 1879-1880, of $285.: in 1880-1881, of $235. Was not this expended in

& by the mission churches themselves? I have said to our Committee, in answer to their inquiries, that I supposed this to be the case.

Has there been supplied to you such paper as I am writing on, with margin for binding? The mission letters are bound in volumes. Those written on smaller paper & without this margin prove very unmanageable. Much of the writing is covered by the binding. For this reason, paper for Official correspondence, with this margin, is supplied freely from the rooms to all the missions. Perhaps you have not known of it, or have not been supplied. It can easily be sent to you by mail, & shall be if you desire it & will say how much for the present is needed.

My Christmas is a beautiful, clear, dry, hopeful day. I trust you are to have a milder winter than last winter was.

With kindest greetings for Xtmas & New Years to you all.

Very truly yours.

J. O. Means.

I expect to attend the Ind. Com. Meeting in Washington ~~Jany~~ Janua 18. 1882

Dec. 28. 81.

Miss Lizzie E. Gleason,
Santee Agency.

My dear Miss Gleason:

Your letter of Dec. 20th reached me yesterday.

I am very glad that you propose to offer your services to the Board as an assistant missionary. It is far better that those who are occupying such positions as you are, and have been, occupying should have a direct relation to the Board. Secretary Alden, who has charge of all matters of this kind, will communicate with you at once. He will send you a copy of our Manual in which you will see what it is necessary to do in offering your services to the Board. He will also ask you for testimonials and will write to others to obtain them about you. I hope you are prospering in your work, and that, above all, there will be blessed spiritual results at the station this winter.

Respectfully and very truly yours,

J. O. Means
Secy. Am. Board

Mrs. J. C. Robbins, Dec. 28. 81.

Santee Agency.

My dear Mrs. Robbins:

The last letter I received from you was dated Sept. 29th. I acknowledged it with many thanks in a letter I wrote to you Oct. 5th. I hope since then you have been too busy in doing the Lord's work, and in the enjoyment of learning the language and teaching your scholars, to find spare time for much correspondence. I write, however, to tell you that you and our beloved teachers at Santee have not been out of our minds at any time. We think of you, we hope for you, we pray for you; and now that Christmas has gone and New Year's is close at hand, I want to send you our Christian greetings, and our best wishes for your personal enjoyment, for your advancement in the knowledge of the Indian language and for your growing familiarity with everything needful for your best success as a teacher, and above all, and more than all, for your increase in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and your comfort of hope. May this opening year be the best year you have ever known in labor for yourself and for those among whom you are dwelling.

Please give my Christian salutations to the members of your Club in the Dakota Home. We wish them all joy and peace.

Mr. Chapin sends to you some of the regulation paper for official correspondence. Our mission letters are bound in volumes and it is necessary to have a margin at the back, and also to have the papers of uniform size. This paper is furnished from the rooms, and whenever you are out of it, please let us know, and it will be supplied to you.

Very truly yours,
J. O. Means

Your salary is to be the same in 1882 as in 1881, as you will see by the letter to Mr Riggs containing the appropriations for Santee.

Jan 9 82

Miss Ruth A. Faxon
Santee Agency

My dear Miss Faxon.
Your letter of Dec. 20th was recd [illegible] I write to say that I have acco[illegible] given to Miss Borden, [illegible] five dollars for [illegible] twenty dollars [illegible] making twenty five dollars [illegible] charged to your account [illegible] Sept. 7. [illegible] Sept. [illegible] $3.2[illegible] 31 [illegible] $7.63 [illegible] $25 [illegible] makes 100.88 on the outfit [illegible] I gave at request [illegible] so that he will not write [illegible] this matter.

I am glad [illegible] from letters from Mr Riggs just recd, that you observed the week of prayer with the meetings each day. I trust the Lord was with you in them. The season was generally observed here, but with no marked degree of interest. The woman's Board meets this week;

Dec. 31. 81.

Hon. H. Price.
Com. Ind. Affairs, &c.
Washington. D.C.

My dear Sir.–
Will you be kind enough to send us the Report of the Com.r for 1880 – we recd no copy. as we usually have recd one – & the report for 1881 as soon as it is published.

And greatly oblige,
Yours Respectfully,
J. O. Means.
Secy Am. Board.

Jan 9 82

Miss Ruth A. Faxon
Santee Agency.

My dear Miss Faxon.

Your letter of Dec. 26th was read on the 31. & now I write to say that I have according to your wishes, given to Miss Borden, your niece five dollars for books to be forwarded to you. & twenty dollars for other purchases, making twenty five dollars in all, advanced & charged to your outfit allowance. Sept 7. there was paid on this account $25.- Sept. 20. $3.25. Oct 31. $47.63. added to the $25. now paid makes $100.88 on the outfit. These last items I gave at request of Treasurer Ward, so that he will not write to you about this matter.

I am glad to hear, as I do from letters from Mr Riggs just read, that you observed the week of prayer with the meetings each day. I trust the Lord was with you in them. The season was generally observed here, but with no marked degree of interest.

The woman's Board meets this week;

I am obliged to be absent at Washington at the annual meeting of the Indian Commissioners.

A happy & blessed New Year to you all!

Very truly yours.

J. O Means.

Jan 9

Your letter of Jan [illegible] [illegible]. As you request, I return the letter to Mr Riggs which you forwarded for me to read.

As I said to you, of course I could not forward it to him. It would then really be my letter.

Then, I think it not healthful for you to dwell longer on these things, now that you feel that your position is secure to your mind. It only keeps up an

Jany 9 82.

Most dear Miss Pike.

Your letter of Jany 7 has just been received. — As you request. I return the letter to Mr Riggs which you forwarded for me to read.

As I said to you, of course I could not forward it to him. It would then really be my letter.

Then, I think it not healthful for you to dwell longer on these things, now that you feel that your position is none to your mind. It only keeps up an

Miss S. B. Pike. Ft Berthold

irritation of mind & feeling
she occupied longer about
the matter.

It is not expected ~~that~~ a visit
will be paid to the Dakota
Mission until May or June
probably, when the weather
may be favorable. There is no
reason for going out of season.

May the Lord give you perfect
soundness of body & mind &
soul, this year, & great joy
in His service. We remem-
bered you all in our week
of prayer.

Very truly yours
J. O. Means.

Mrs S. B. Pike. Ft Berthold.

Jany 7 82.

Rev. C. L. Hall
Ft Berthold D. T.

My dear brother
Your letter of Dec. 31. 1881
has [illegible]. I thank you for your
explanation of the [illegible] "man trip"
for [illegible] it in a
different [illegible] which it was
[illegible] the Mission
[illegible], as the
Com[illegible] your
family [illegible] not had you
home [illegible] would not
have [illegible] work needing
to be [illegible] a call for another
[illegible] another
man [illegible] most pressing
[illegible] Indians now
is the Ft Berthold neighborhood that
[illegible] next summer
[illegible] will report
as to [illegible] be done.

No explanation was needed in regard to
the item for travelling expenses [illegible] the Com.

Jany 7 82.

Rev. C. L. Hall.
Ft Berthold. D.T.

My dear brother.

Your letter of Dec. 31. 1881 has just arrived. I thank you for your explanation of the matter of "man & wife for Home nucleus". You present it in a different light from that in which it was brought before the Committee in the Mission Estimates. It was brought forward, as the Com. understood, as a necessity for your family life, & that if you had not had your home as it was broken up, they would not have been asked for. If, for the work needing to be done, there is now a call for another family at Ft Berthold, that is quite another matter. It seems as though the most pressing & most hopeful work for our Indians now is that at Ft Berthold & neighborhood & that at Ft Sully. Those who go out next Summer to look over the Indian Mission will report as to what more should be done.

No explanation was needed in regard to the item for "travelling expenses". The Com.

had no hesitation in granting what you asked. The usage in all our missions is for the salary of the missionary to be arranged with a view to cover all proper expenses for his comfortable living & working in his appropriate field, including his travel to & from outstations & mission meetings. Travel for work outside, to distant & new fields are proper extras. Travel away from the mission to distant places for personal objects, of course is at the personal charge of the missionary, unless a request is made to the Pru. Com. & their approval granted beforehand.

As to industrial & boarding schools, there will be a thorough examination reconsideration; doubtless after the visit to the Marathi Stations.

We send you all our most hearty greetings with the new year & join you in earnest prayer for a large blessing upon the Indian & all the missions in these coming months. May the Lord pour out His Spirit in abundant measure!

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.

Jany 21 82

Hon. H. Price.
Com. of Indian Affairs.
&c &c

Dear Sir.-

I have the honor to enclose vouchers in duplicate for the instruction of Indian Children at our School at the Sisseton Agency for the term ending Dec. 31. 1881.

The amount due is $263.50.

Respectfully Yours,
J. O. Means
Secy Am. Board.

Jany 23 82

Jan. 23 82.

Miss Lizzie E. Glisan
Santee Agency Neb.

My Dear Miss Glisan,

I thank you for your frank letter of 17th inst just received. It shows your conscientiousness as to the whole matter of means & I heartily appreciate it. You are doing a good work & God will bless you in it. We think that it will be as well for your relation to continue as it now is to the mission, & your papers which we will keep on file will explain its peculiarities without formal appointment & without any further documents.

Wishing you abundant success in your present work and all happiness in all your plans for the future, I remain

Very truly yours
E. K. Alden
Home Sec.

Jan'y 23 82

Miss S. Lizzie Voorhees
Santee Agency.

Dear Miss Voorhees:

I thank you for your letter of the 9th inst. It came while I was absent, at Carlisle & Hampton. From my visits there, I think possibly you may get the relief you need from overwork by having the boys do more than they have been doing. You speak of needing some one to "take charge of the bed room work". Cannot the boys do that? They do at Hampton, with oversight. I think they might assist you greatly in this way. Then as to the Ironing, cannot the girls be brought to do this, with proper oversight? One thing which interested me greatly at Hampton & at Carlisle was the amount of work done by the Indians themselves, in taking care of their own rooms, assisting in cooking & sewing & mending, & in outdoor work.

We are glad to hear of the increase in the

number of scholars. May the Lord bless you all in your endeavors to bring them to know & love Him in Jesus Christ our Lord!
with best wishes for the New Year
Very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Jan 23 82

[illegible]

last week Rev. [illegible] Riggs placed in my hands a letter from [illegible] Jan 7 addressed to the Brethren of the Dakota Mission. He said he did not know what to do with it or about it, & wished me to take it & write you as seemed best.

We appreciate thoroughly the embarrassments of the situation in which you are. It is not easy to say what should be done. At this season & for some time now, it would not seem practicable to make any changes. Is it not possible, & may it not be the wisest & most hopeful course, to put up with the present condition of things till the Com. of the Woman's Bd. shall visit the mission, as it is intended a Com. shall as soon as the season will allow? I wish this might be so. If it cannot be, then the next best thing shall be attempted.

By the way, what is the best way of reaching

Jany 23 82

Rev. C. L. Hall.
Fort Berthold.

My dear brother.—

When I was at Carlisle, last week, Rev. Dr S. R. Riggs placed in my hands a letter from you dated Jany 7 addressed to the Brethren of the Dakota Mission. He said he did not know what to do with it or about it, & wished me to take it, & write you as seemed best.—

We appreciate thoroughly the embarrassments of the situation in which you are. It is not easy to say what should be done. At this season & for some time now, it would not seem practicable to make any changes. Is it not possible, & may it not be the wisest & most hopeful course, to put up with the present condition of things till the Com. ~~from~~ the rooms here shall visit the Mission, as it is intended a Com. shall as soon as the season will allow? I wish this might be so; If it cannot be, then the next best thing shall be attempted.

By the way, what is the best way of reaching you, & how early should you advise friends to make the proposed visit? When will the schools & the other work be in a condition in which a fair judgment may be had of what is needed for the future?

I have just visited the Indian work at Hampton & at Carlisle. Noble Christian work is done at both places. The meeting of Secretaries of Missy Societies with the Indian Commissioners at Washington, & with the President & the Indian Department, was full of hope.

May the Lord bless you this winter most abundantly in your work & in your own life!

Most sincerely yours,
J. O. Means

Jany 25 82

Rev. A. L. Riggs:
Santee Agency.

My dear brother:

Your two letters of Jan 4 were received in due time. My absence from the city has delayed my answering them till now. The Pru. Com. at once granted your request of One Hundred dollars, or at that rate, for 1882, from Jany 1, for the schooling of your son Frederick at Detroit. The Com. also agreed ~~that~~ a grant be made for outdoor work at Santee at the rate of $500 per year for the whole or any part of 1882, subject to revision hereafter, as the other appropriations are. No estimate was presented for this in the Mission estimates.

Johnny Eastman arrived safely Saturday morning. Miss Shepard was here, & he took the noon train with her, to stop at her brother's over Sunday & then go on to Hanover. I hope he can enter the Scientific Department at Hanover, instead of remaining a year at Meriden. Miss Shepard seems pretty well. I regretted that I was absent from Boston during her visit here, & so has no such opportunity as I should like of learning from her how she was getting on.

We are having extremely bitter cold for a few days, though the winter on the whole has been mild.

I hope to receive from answers to several questions in my letter of Dec. 24.

With kindest regards to all the members of the mission.

Very truly yours.
J. O. Means.

Private

January 30 82

My dear Mr Ward:

[illegible] matter [illegible] I returned last week from [illegible]

[illegible] disturbed by [illegible] I think he had [illegible] disagreeably heated; a [illegible] opinion [illegible] by him. He [illegible] Mr Ward of Yankton also thought so. [illegible]

By direction of the Committee, I have written to Dr Riggs several letters: the letters in all instances have been read to & [illegible] upon by the Com. before they were sent. It has been extremely unpleasant to say some things which the Com. felt obliged to say.

I should esteem it a special favor if you will write to me what impression has been given to you about the matter. It may be that you have been misinformed a not

Private

January 31 82

My dear Mr Ward:–

I returned last week from a visit to Washington, Hampton, & Carlisle about Indian matters. At Carlisle I saw Rev. Dr S. R. Riggs, whom also I saw for a few moments at Washington. Dr Riggs appeared to be very much disturbed by the recent correspondence between him & these rooms. He seemed to think he had been unkindly treated. I cannot quote his words, but "outrageously treated", or some such expression was the expression used by him. He added that Mr Ward of Yankton also thought so.

By direction of the Committee, I have written to Dr Riggs several letters: the letters in all instances have been read to & voted upon by the Com. before they were sent. It has been extremely unpleasant to say some things which the Com. felt obliged to say.

I should esteem it a special favor if you will write to me what impression has been given to you about the matter. It may be that you have been misinformed or not fully informed of the matters which the Committee have been compelled to notice.

We have been very careful of what has been said & done about some matters in our Dakota Mission which have not been altogether satisfactory. It is the expectation that a Sub-Committee will visit all parts of the Mission field, as soon as practicable, & consider suggestions that may be made to make the work more efficient.

I write this to you privately, as various intimations have reached us that in some way what the Com. has been doing about our Indian Mission has not been correctly represented at the West.

I wish you would write very freely & in confidence if you desire it.

Very truly, Yours in the
common service.
J. O. Means.

Rev. Jos Ward,
Yankton,
Dak.

Feb. 1. 2

Rev. A. L. Riggs.
Santee Agency.

My dear brother. In my letter of Jan'y 25 I spoke of the arrival here of Charles Eastman. He proceeded to Hanover, & in President Bartlett's absence, a letter was addressed to Prof. Ruggles, of the Scientific School. It was stated that Charles had taken the first year in the Scientific department at Knox College, & it was thought he could probably enter the school at Hanover. Prof. Ruggles found he would need to spend a year first at Meriden.

On Presd^t Bartlett's return there was correspondence with him. He does not know much of Charles, of course, but it is his impression that the special Scientific Course will not be as well for him as the Academic Course. He rather advises that he stay at Meriden a year & then enter the Academic department of the College. I am inclined to think, from my imperfect knowledge of Charles' condition & what he needs, that this is the best thing to do.

I write specially to request that you will

write to President Bartlett & give him partic=
ulars about Charles Eastman, & make such
suggestions as to his studies as seem to you
best. Presidt Bartlett feels very much in
the dark & would like such fuller informa=
tion as you may be able to give him.

We are just having the heaviest snow
storm of the season.

With best wishes to you all.
Very truly yours.
J. O. Means.

President Bartlett's address is
"Rev. Dr S. C. B.
President of Dartmouth College
Hanover New Hampshire."

Feb. 4 82

Miss Sophronia B. Pike.

Fort Berthold, Dak.

My dear Miss Pike.

Your letter of Jan'y 26 has just arrived. You need no apology for writing as often as you have anything to say, or for saying what ever is upon your mind & heart.

It is comforting to know, in all the strange experiences which come to us in God's loving providence, that we have One who is ever listening to our cries & is in tender sympathy with us: He knoweth our frame, He remembereth that we are dust. May you have great strength & comfort from the sense of Christ's presence with you.

Is it best to make at present the change you speak of? Is it not best, for very many reasons, to hold on till this school year shall end? Is it not possible, & therefore expedient, to have matters remain as they are, in spite of all you say & feel, till the present terms close, & the communication east is more convenient, & till a visit has been paid to Fort Berthold from Boston?

I ask these questions, inasmuch as it is unquestionable ~~that by~~ breaking off & breaking up existing relations at once would cause disturbances which it is desirable if possible to avoid.

We are sometimes in situations in which, in virtue of the fact that there is a great trial of faith & patience, great harm is avoided if no positive good be accomplished by our willingness to suffer the perfect will of God.

I feel for you all at Fort Berthold most deeply & pray most fervently that the Lord may give such deliverances from the perplexities as is meet.

Very Sincerely Yours.

J. O. Means.

Feb. 9 82

Mrs M. R. Morris,
Sisseton Agency. Dak.

My dear Mrs Morris.

Rev. Dr Riggs, your father, called my attention, when I saw him at Carlisle recently, to the reduction in the grant made by the Mis'd. Committee for school expenses. I said that I would call the attention of the Com. to it. On reaching Boston I found your letter of Jany 7. addressed to Dr Clark, in which you ask ~~that~~ more may be granted for the school expenses, & express "dismay" at the reduction. The whole matter has been again laid before the Com., & they have just agreed to restore $100. to the allowance for the school for this year, making it $250 instead of $150. This, of course, will carry the school through to July, as you say that on the previous allowance, it could be continued only till April. Of course it [illegible] be no expense of any amount for fuel in your summer term; the salaries w. have been [illegible] whether the school ends in April & work on wages of the Indian women this year."

Feb. 9 82

Mrs M. R. Morris,
Sisseton Agency. Dak.

My dear Mrs Morris.

Rev. Dr Riggs, your father, called my attention, when I saw him at Carlisle recently, to the reduction in the grant made by the Pru. Committee for school expenses. I said that I would call the attention of the Com. to it. On reaching Boston I found your letter of Jany 7. addressed to Dr Clark, in which you ask that more may be granted for the school expenses, & express "dismay" at the reduction. The whole matter has been again laid before the Com., & they have just agreed to restore $100. to the allowance for the school for this year, making it $250. instead of $150. This, of course, will carry the school through to July, as you intimate that on the previous allowance, it could be continued only till April. Of course, there can be no expense of any amount for fuel during the summer term; the salaries will be the same, whether the school ends in April or July; the wages of the Indian women, as you represent them, will be, for 12 weeks beyond April, some $48. only: so ~~that~~ the additional hundred allowed, it is hoped, will keep the school in good condition for the whole time.

Of course, it is not necessary to say that the Com. desire simply to do what shall conduce to the highest prosperity of the School & of the Mission. Increased expenditure of funds does not seem to have increased the efficiency of the School, so far as this is indicated by the number of pupils. According to your last report, the enrolment & average attendance of scholars has very much fallen off in late years, while the force employed & the cost involved has very much increased.

The churches at Sisseton are all under native pastors, whose salaries only are in part paid from mission funds. Dr Riggs has general supervision, & general oversight over the school. Deducting his salary, & the amount paid to the native pastors, all the rest expended at Sisseton is for the maintenance of the school. You say in your letter that "in all the years we have been at work we have never had less to work on than the Com. have granted this year".

Do we not sometimes fail to notice a gradual increase in expenses, & doubt ~~that~~ there has been any increase, until we look over the account books? About 1869 the work at Santee, as you know, was undertaken, & in 1870 Mr Morris went there "in the capacity of teacher, to assist Dr Riggs in the school", who "gave his time to the general work & training men for native preachers". The school, in those years, is reported as having a large attendance. There was nothing asked & no appropriation was made for incidental school expenses. The first year anything was asked for school expenses was 1876, when the amount was $50. In 1877 the same amount, $50. was asked & granted. In 1878-9, Dr Riggs' report says: "The school is increasing in numbers & usefulness every year. Besides the family house & the school house, two small frame houses have been used in connection with the school. In these have been kept boarding scholars, boys in one & girls in the other". Mr Morris' report says: "The whole number of attendance was 50. The average for the two months was 30, the remaining time, near 20. At one time we had in our

5

boarding departments 32 Scholars. The two houses are attended by Indian women. The School was from the middle of October to the first of April". The salaries of the native pastors this year were $750: of Dr Riggs, including travelling expenses. $825. of Mrs Renville for her work at Ascension, $150: for two pupils at Beloit, $150. This left, for all salaries & expenses of the School proper during this year when there were so many boarding Scholars, $1100. - For 1880, ~~[illegible]~~. the number of Scholars is not reported. The teaching force & salaries & other expenditures greatly increase. In the last report, of the school year ending in June 1881, Mr Morris wrote: "In October, 1880, 7 Scholars were enrolled, the average was 5. In November 26 were enrolled, average was 10. In Dec. 26 enrolled, average 21. In January, 1881, Feb. & March, about the same. In April, May, & June 30 enrolled, average 15". - "Of these some have staid but a short time, & a larger number than usual are day Scholars". - This shows a total enrollment during the year of 30, an average enrollment during the year of 25. An average attend=

ance of 16, & many of them day scholars.*

Deducting the salary of Dr Riggs, grants to native pastors &c. as before, the remaining salaries & expenditures for the school this year amount to $1900. The school kept three months longer than in 1878-9; but it was in the summer time, the salaries in both cases were for the whole year, & the additional cost in 1881 was mainly the extra wages of the Indian women, which was for the twelve weeks $48.

Was it not necessary for the Com., in making the appropriation for 1882, to be guided by the report as to the number of scholars in the school? In 1878-9, with an enrolment of 50, & with 32 in the boarding department at one time, the total expenditures were $1100: in 1881, with 30 as the highest at one time & an average attendance of 16, the total expenditure, making the same deductions, was $1900.; & the estimate for 1882 sent to the Com. was $1950. — Almost invariably there comes an increase of expenditures. The Com. as stewards of monies contributed by the churches, are obliged to see that only that be expended which is absolutely needed. So recently as 1878-9 the School Salaries & expenditures at S. Peter were $1100. With the report of last year before them, the Com. had no reason to think the number of Scholars was likely to increase much. The Expenditures for Salaries &c. it is true, must be the same when the Scholars may not be so numerous. But as $1100. answered in 1878-9, it would seem that $1350. the original appropriation for 1882, would answer for the School as it now is. Now that this is increased by $100. to $1450, I hope you will have great joy to go on in your work with increasing success.

The vouchers came in due order.

We are having at last an old fashioned winter with abundance of snow.

May the Lord grant great spiritual blessings to all in our Mission field of the Dakotas!

Very Respectfully & truly, Yours,
J. O. Means.

Feb. 10 82

Rev. Dr S. R. Riggs.

Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle Pa.

My dear Dr Riggs.

I thank you for yours of the 4th, recd. 7th. It seems to me a little time must be allowed for things to settle at Ft Berthold. Letters came from Mr Hall & from Miss Pike of the same tenor. I do not understand how it is to be expected that if Mr H. & Miss P. cannot work together as missionaries they can in the new arrangement. But, as things are, it seems best to do nothing for awhile. No suitable person could be obtained & be brought into the work for some months. Meanwhile, it may become clear what should be done. – There is now a young lady who has been appointed by the Com. & who if needed might be designated to the Dakotas. But I doubt the wisdom of sending any third woman to Berthold just now.

Thank you for naming Miss Bennett.

I called the attention of the Com. to what you said about increasing the grant for school expenses at S. Peter, & to a letter on the same matter which I found waiting my return, from Mrs Morris. I have just written to Mrs Morris that the Com. have agreed to add another hundred dollars, making grant for School Expenses $250 for 1882.

In explanation of my remark about the School at Sisseton being designed for a training School, I find that in 1869 you wrote:- "My plan is to obtain the assistance of a young married man, minister or educated layman, who could take charge of the educational work, establish & carry on an English day school at the station & have some general supervision of education on the mountain, while I should give my own time to the general work, watching over the whole mountain field & training men for native preachers." For this you asked for an appropriation for dwelling, school house, &c at Sisseton, $2500, & it was granted.

Mr Morris is afterward reported as secured to be your assistant. The report for 1870 reads: "The Messrs Riggs (S. R. & A. L.) are expected to give special attention to the preparation of native preachers & teachers.

It is with a view to the execution of this plan that buildings have been erected within the last few months, both at Good Will & at Santee Agency. The mission hope that two training schools will be in operation during the coming autumn.

The report for 1871 says: "The two training schools have been successfully inaugurated. The one at Good Will was opened early in November; & the number of registered pupils soon rose to 70. . . The institution will doubtless prove an agency of great value, as well for the confirmation of the churches on the Coteau as for the evangelization of those far away, who are at present without the means of grace."

I have just received an interesting letter from your son, Rev. T. L. R., from Standing Rock Agency, dated Feb. 3. He has with him Clarence Ward & his wife.

Please remember me kindly to Mrs Riggs, & to Captain & Mrs Pratt, & Miss Semple, & the other ladies whose acquaintance I had the pleasure of making at Carlisle.

Respectfully & very truly yours,
J. O. Means.

Feb. 11 82

Miss Eda L. Ward

Fort Berthold.

My dear Miss Ward.

There have been many letters from your Station of late, but none from you: which I interpret to mean that you possess your soul in quietness. I trust you are finding your work pleasant & that it will prove very successful. We offer many prayers for the ladies intrusted with the care & responsibilities of mission schools. While they are free to ask advice & assistance from the other missionaries, they must arrange all the details of the school, the methods of teaching & everything connected with the instruction according to their own judgment of what is best, just as the missionary who has charge of the church & pulpit must arrange every thing relating to his department. This very responsible charge which is committed to you ladies, while it secures to you your independent position & freedom of action in all matters of your own department, involves necessarily solicitude on your part to have the work done in the best manner for the general spiritual prosperity of the mission.

There is a great advantage in having this contribution to the success of mission work which woman's instincts & perceptions & training, & her views of life give. Women can see how things ought to be done, & by their nice action, can do them, in the school & in the care of pupils, when the men who find their sphere in preaching & a variety of outside work might expose themselves to failures if they undertook this department of mission work.

May this winter & spring prove a season of great spiritual life & power at Fort Berthold.

Respectfully & very truly yours.

J. O. Means.

Feb. 11 82

Miss Sophronia B. Pike:
Fort Berthold.

My dear Miss Pike.

I had but just answered your letter of Jan'y 26th when the letter of Jan'y 30th reached me. The same day came letters from Mr Hall. On consultation with Secy Clark & Alden, I have not laid these communications before the Committee, & I will not do so at present, unless you urgently desire it. There is no reason why as a temporary arrangement, you should not go on as you are beginning. Instead of school work, it is mutually agreed between you & Mr Hall that you take charge of the household. Your relation to the Board continues unchanged. Your salary goes on as it has been. You are not hired by Mr Hall but are still an assistant Missionary doing this specific work. The school you have been teaching may be suspended for the present. It is not expedient to send another lady to Fort Berthold, to take charge of the school, as things are. When the Committee dear Brother visit Ft Berthold, as they will as soon as the weather is favorable, it can be determined what permanent changes, if any, are desirable.

I trust your health will improve with the new arrangement, & that you will find opportunity of promoting the spiritual work for which schools, teachers, preachers, missionaries are all alike laboring. May the Lord give you personally much of His peace & the sweet sense of His presence!

We are all in deep & tender sympathy with you all, & many prayers are going up that souls among you may be quickened to a new & blessed life.

Respectfully & very truly yours

J. O. Means.

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Feb. 11 82

Rev. C. L. Hall.
Fort Berthold.

My dear brother. Your letter to Dr Riggs of Jany 27. & two of Jany 30th to me, were rec'd on the 7th inst.

Most deeply & prayerfully do I sympathize with you all in this very embarassing state of things. I need not say that I am also greatly surprised that there has come such a sudden solution - temporarily - of the difficulty. May it prove durable.

After full consideration of all the correspondence the Secretaries agree that the best course is to wait & see how the new arrangement works, & do nothing toward placing another teacher at Ft Berthold for the present. The school does not seem very large. It had better be suspended for a while rather than have a third teacher go up, until there is a full & final & mutually satisfactory settlement of affairs. For the time being it is not necessary to lay before the Com. the matter of Miss Pike's resignation. You & she are willing, & arrange, that she shall give her time to the care of the household. Under the circumstances, there is no reason why that should not be done. She simply takes the position which by advice of the Mission you requested to have some one fill. Her salary will go on as heretofore: you are not to be responsible for it.

This seems to us the best thing now. If however it does not seem to you & to Miss Pike satisfactory the whole matter shall be laid before the Prud. Com. for their disposal of it.

It is impossible to say as yet when the visit can be made from here. It is hoped that Rev. I. R. Worcester, who has long been most familiar with all the missions as Editor of the Missy Herald, & member of the Prud. Com. — he is father-in-law of Secy Clark — may consent to go to Dakota as one of the Com.; if he does regard for his health may make it expedient not to go till the spring is fairly open.

O that the Holy Spirit may be poured upon Missionaries, Indians, Commissioners, Secretaries, & all everywhere!

Most sincerely yours,
J. O. Means.

Feb. 11 82

Rev. Thos L. Riggs:

Fort Sully.—

My dear brother.— Your letter, most welcome, from Standing Rock agency, has just reached me. I direct this to Ft Sully where it will find you at some time. It might miss you if I directed to any other station. I am glad you have put into the work at Standing Rock a workman — he will prove, I trust, one needing not to be ashamed.

Please, at some time, write me in full about the outlook at Standing Rock: the number, the condition of the Indians: the work of any Society, Catholic included, now done or pretended or attempted to be done: & what the field is as to demands & opportunities for new endeavors. General Armstrong seemed to think there was a field in which something might be attempted in connection with Hampton Institute.

Since I have been writing I have had a call from Mr Dodge of Grafton, brother of Mrs Henry Riggs, to whom I took the liberty of reading your letter. He wishes to be remembered to you.

I have just been writing letters to Fort Berthold, & hope the perplexities & embarrassments there will disappear. Great wisdom, & patience, as well as grace is needed by us all, & we have a Divine promise that this shall be given if we ask for it. May the spirit of Supplication for all gifts & graces rest upon us!

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

J. O. Means.